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First cases on campus this year put college Covid-19 policy to the test

By CATHERINE McLAUGHLIN
News Editor

Two students tested positive for Covid-19 upon arrival to Middlebury and one student tested positive post-arrival, according to Julia Ferrante, associate vice president for public affairs, putting into action the college's policies for confirmed cases on campus and outbreak prevention.

Fourteen additional students tested positive as part of Middlebury's pre-arrival testing program and had to delay their arrival to campus.

These cases were announced to students via email last Friday. The figures provided in the email — included under the heading "Face Covering Reminder" as an example of the necessity of mask-wearing — were 16 pre-arrival cases (combining the two who tested positive upon arrival and the 14 who tested positive before coming to campus) and the one student post-arrival case.

"We do not define these three cases as an 'outbreak,'" Ferrante said in an email to The Campus. According to Ferrante, the college's contact tracing efforts in response to the most recent case are ongoing.

"As soon as we identify a positive student case, we instruct them to isolate away from others and they are moved to isolation housing or to a location off campus where they can safely recover," Ferrante said.

Ferrante said that the school then conducts contact tracing to identify any students who may have been infected with the virus. Fully vaccinated close contacts are required to wear masks and be re-test in three to five days, but do not have to quarantine. Unvaccinated contacts must quarantine until they receive a negative Day Seven test result and have no symptoms, unless given other directions by the Vermont Department of Health and CDC guidance.

Other NESCAC institutions have also managed positive cases — and significant outbreaks— at their campuses since the return of students this fall. Most have responded to growing case counts by increasing the frequency of their already regular and widespread testing. Some schools also increased their campus' level of alert, placing restrictions on dining and gathering limits, and instating other measures to increase physical distancing.

SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A Covid-19 testing station at the Parton Health Center. Middlebury is not currently doing surveillance testing of all students, but Julia Ferrante, associate vice president for public affairs, said that the college is "ready to ramp up testing for all students if needed and would do so if prevalence indicates it is needed."

At Connecticut College in New London, Conn., 169 students tested positive for Covid-19 in a single week, prompting a campus lockdown on Sept. 7, according to the school's Covid-19 dashboard. On Sept. 13, after a week of the school's highest alert level, some restrictions were relaxed, allowing students to return to in-person classes and athletic practices, while dining remained take-out only, and gathering limits stayed low.

Connecticut College students are tested twice per week, and the college's administration said it believes the outbreak was related to a large number of gatherings indoors in crowded spaces — both on campus in dorms and off campus in bars and apartments — causing a "chain reaction" of spread among the student body. There are currently 20 cases on campus.

On Sept. 3, Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME announced it would increase student test-

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CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE AND COURSE REGISTRATION SUFFER AS OVER-ENROLLED MIDDLEBURY RETURNS TO IN-PERSON CLASSES

By CHARLIE KEOHANE & RACHEL LU
Editor at Large & Staff Writer

From an unusual system for course registration to packed classrooms, both students and professors are feeling the impact of over-enrollment — and many have concerns about the potential spread of Covid-19 in the classroom.

The morning of course registration is typically a time of stress for Middlebury students, fraught with countdown timers and frantic emails to get into often long-ago-filled classes. This fall, with a student body of over 2,800 students — about 300 students more than in a typical year — tensions are heightened. Now more than ever, students are having trouble getting into courses, and classrooms are packed with those hoping to get off waitlists.

> "I figured I wouldn't get the classes in my first plan, but I wasn't expecting it to be that crazy."

With more than 50 additional first years registering this semester, the college divided students randomly by First Year Seminar into two registration groups, one registering at 10 a.m. and the other registering half an hour later. The change was intended to improve registration software performance, but many students in the second round struggled to register for any of the classes they wanted. The second group of students will have priority for registration in the spring.

Unlike in the fall, however, spring courses do not have seats reserved specifically for first years.

Addie Morrison '25 was in the second wave of registration and only got into one class from her three original registration plans. Although she is grateful to have successfully registered for four classes, Morrison is taking an online class, which she did not expect.

"I figured I wouldn't get the classes in my first plan, but I wasn't expecting it to be that crazy," Morrison said.

This fall, Middlebury added about 30 more lecture-and seminar-style classes compared to fall 2019, according to Dean of Curriculum Grace Spatafora. Middlebury also welcomed 44 new faculty members, of which nine are tenure-track professors. Last fall, Middlebury hired 33 faculty members. Despite the new hires, students and professors alike reported that classes feel overcrowded. In some cases, there is not enough seating available.

"I have people sitting on the windowsill in my environment class," Meaghan McEnroe '24.5 said. "They are definitely overloading the classes, but it's still hard to get in."

McEnroe was only able to get into one of the four classes she was hoping to take and expressed frustration with the registration process.

> "I have people sitting on the windowsill in my environment class."

"It is all about how fast you can log into BannerWeb, and then you have to beg professors to get into classes."

Sophomores, juniors and seniors registered this past spring, with older students selecting

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THE BUZZ ON WASPS

By SOPHIA McDERMOTT-HUGHES
Editor at Large

"How crazy would it be if a bee flew into your mouth while you were eating?" Charlie Reinkemeyer '21.5 asked his friends over breakfast outside Proctor.

When Reinkemeyer stood up with a yelp and announced that he'd just been stung, his friends thought he was joking. But the wasp that had alighted on the piece of fruit he was eating, dodging his gnashing jaws to jab the soft flesh on the inside of his cheek, was deadly serious.

Reinkemeyer is one of the latest in a long line of the wasps' victims. Each fall, returning students are greeted by swarms of the black and yellow bugs outside of the dining halls descending on anyone who dares to eat outside. The picnic tables buzz with students complaining about the insects' presence, debating whether they are bees or wasps and speculating as to why the college isn't doing more to deal with them.

PIA CONTRERAS

The Campus reached out to Middlebury's bug experts for answers.

The bugs that swarm the dining halls are primarily yellowjacket wasps, easily identifiable by their thin waist, which allows them to swing their abdomen forward and sting in front of their bodies as well as behind, an important defensive feature, according to Assistant Professor of Biology Greg Pask, who studies insect neurobiology.

Yellowjackets can sting multiple times, unlike bees. However, each sting comes with a high energy cost, so wasps tend to reserve their venom for defensive purposes. Grabbing or swatting yellowjackets are good ways to get stung — as is being unlucky enough to trap one between your skin and clothes, or in your mouth.

Yellowjackets are especially territorial when it comes to protecting their nests. They sense approaching threats both by vibrations and by smelling exhaled carbon dioxide. A careful person can approach a wasp nest and study it at close range without getting attacked, as long as they hold their breath.

Only female wasps have stingers, which are actually primarily egg-laying tubes through which they can inject venom when needed. The venom includes a pain-inducing neurotransmitter called acetylcholine that "activates pain neurons in the skin," Pask said in an email to The Campus. A variety of other proteins cause the severe inflammation that follows.

Entomologist Justin Schmidt let himself be stung by more than 80 varieties of insects to rate them on a pain scale in his book "The Sting of the Wild." He gave the yellowjacket sting a two out of four, the same as most bee varieties, and described it as producing an "instantaneous, hot, burning, complex pain" that "lasts unabated for about two minutes, after which it decreases gradually over the next couple of minutes, leaving us with a hot, red, enduring flare to remind us of the event in case our memory should fade."

While yellowjacket wasps may bug Middlebury students, they are popular with local farmers. They prey on bugs like biting flies, caterpillars and other pests that plague crops and gardens. Though not to the same degree as bees, they do occasionally drink nectar and pollinate plants as well.

Worker wasps bring the protein back to their nests and feed it to the larvae. The larvae consume the insects' flesh, digest it and secrete a sugary substance that the adult wasps then eat.

This time of year, when the summer is ending and the wasps' natural food sources are diminishing, sweet treats from the dining hall are extra appealing. Yellowjacket wasps have a keen sense of smell, and their antennae are covered with powerful scent receptors similar to nostril hairs. Yellowjackets are social insects and will communicate the location of food to their nest-mates by transferring the odor cue to their antenna. Then they will search out the source of the odor together, which often brings them to the dining halls on warm days when hundreds of students bring their meals outside.

Pask said the wasp swarms on campus are likely to worsen for future generations of students. With climate change extending the summer season, the wasps will hang around longer and multiply even more fruitfully. If conditions are good, a queen can lay 50 eggs a day, and a mature nest can host anywhere between 2,000 to 4,000 wasps.

Facilities staff try to remove wasps when they are a nuisance, like the yellowjackets that populate the area outside the dining halls, but there's not much they can do if they can't find their nests. Yellowjackets can forage as far as a mile from their nests.

They are primarily ground nesters, and their colonies can often be found at the base of trees, under porches or even in cracks in the sidewalks. They also seek

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NEWS

Mail Center adjusts to over-enrollment, with some students receiving packages directly to their doorsteps
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During the 2018-19 school year, the Student Mail Center delivered 89,000 packages — in the first month of school, daily totals averaged...
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The Arcadian closes doors indefinitely due to debilitating employee shortage
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A local restaurant served its final meal this past Saturday, September 18, and entered a period of indefinite closure...
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Maggie Wise named NESCAC player of the week
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PRE-ARRIVAL TESTING REQUIREMENT POSES LOGISTICAL, FINANCIAL CHALLENGES TO STUDENTS

By KATIE FUTTERMAN
Staff Writer

All students were required to obtain a negative Covid-19 PCR test within 72 hours before arriving at Middlebury this fall semester, in a change to pre-arrival procedures announced via email on Aug. 17.

Students who had not yet received a test result by the time they arrived — those whose results were ultimately inconclusive — were offered a test from Health Services and were required to stay in room quarantine until they received a negative result. The college also provided Covid-19 vaccinations for those who did not have access to the vaccine before returning to campus.

For some students, finding pre-arrival testing proved both difficult and costly.

Shea Brokaw '24.5 searched for testing sites along his drive from Southern Connecticut to Middlebury, but was unable to find anywhere with availability. When he finally found a testing site in what he thought was Manchester, Vermont, it turned out to be Manchester, New Hampshire.

"I looked in every single town from Connecticut to Middlebury and couldn't find a single place that would get our results back by Saturday," Brokaw said.

Brokaw and another student, Will Nemeth '24, both drove four hours out of the way and ultimately paid $200 each for their tests.

"Free testing is widely available," according to the college's Fall 2021 Semester Information page Q&A about pre-arrival testing. "If you are unable to secure free PCR testing, and the cost of testing presents a significant financial hardship, you may be eligible for assistance."

Last year, students were not required to get tested before coming to campus. Instead, all students were instructed to complete a 14-day pre-arrival quarantine, and were tested by the college upon arrival to campus. Students remained in room quarantine until they received the results of their

> [two students] drove four hours out of the way and ultimately paid $200 each for their tests.

Day Zero test.

The college's decision to require students to get tested prior to their arrival on campus, as well as an indoor mask requirement, followed a nationwide increase in Covid-19 transmission, said Sarah Ray, director of media relations, in an email to The Campus.

Before the policy was announced in August, the college did not plan to require vaccinated students to quarantine or take any other precautionary steps before arriving for the fall semester. Students arriving early to campus were told of the requirement first, on Aug. 17, with orientation leaders slated to move in fewer than 10 days later.

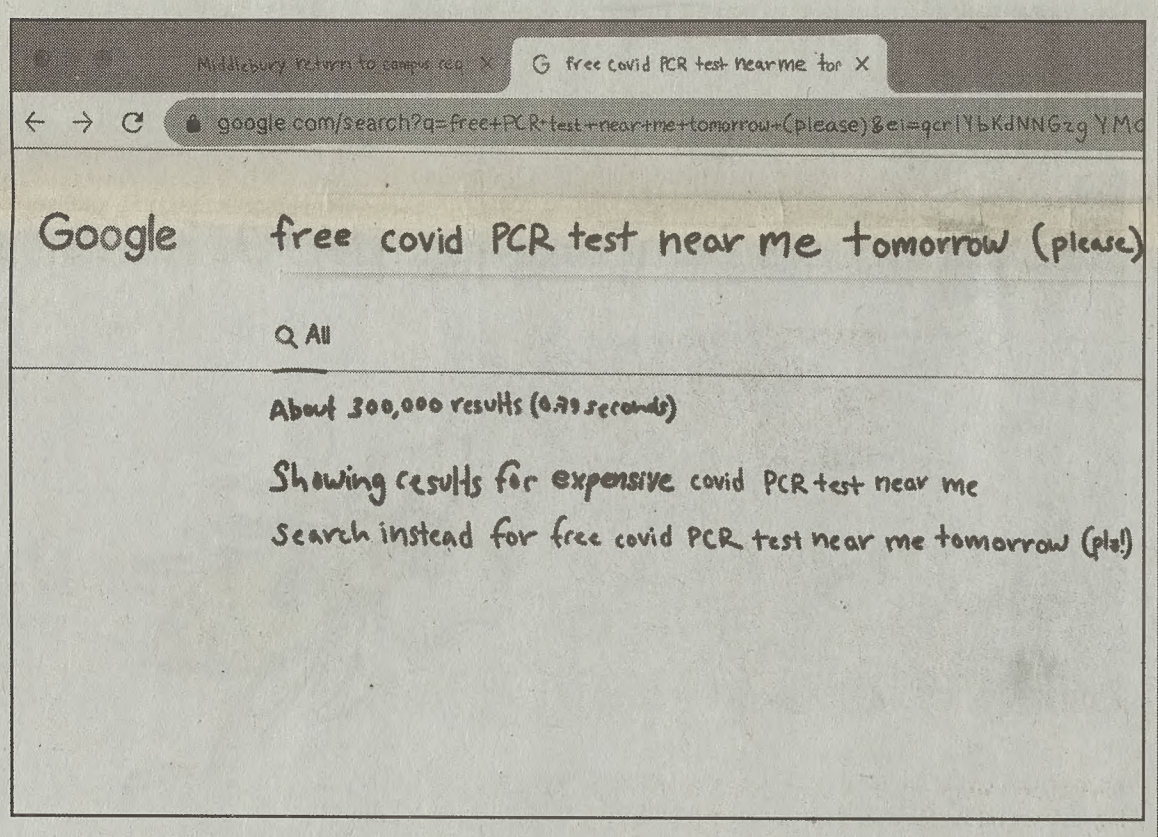
Students not arriving early were informed of the pre-arrival testing requirement via email on Aug. 19.

Pre-arrival testing identified 16 Covid-positive students, who subsequently delayed coming to campus. Unvaccinated students and students coming from international points of origin were tested by the college several times upon and in the weeks following their arrival.

Joshua Gluckmsan '25 was not required to pay for his test, but still faced difficulties in finding a testing site. He returned to Vermont from Chicago three days before move-in to spend time with his family, and had to find testing in Vermont to meet the 72-hour timeframe requirement.

"I was confused because Vermont is like the safest state in the country, but there were no tests," Glucksman said.

After his parents engaged in a long email exchange with the school, they eventually discovered that Glucksman's Middlebury email address allowed him to claim Middlebury as his permanent address, even though he is not a Vermont resident. He drove about 45 minutes to get tested by the state, and received his results just an hour before arriving at Middlebury. The test itself was free and easy, but the process took a toll on him, and took away from time he had hoped to spend with his family before starting college.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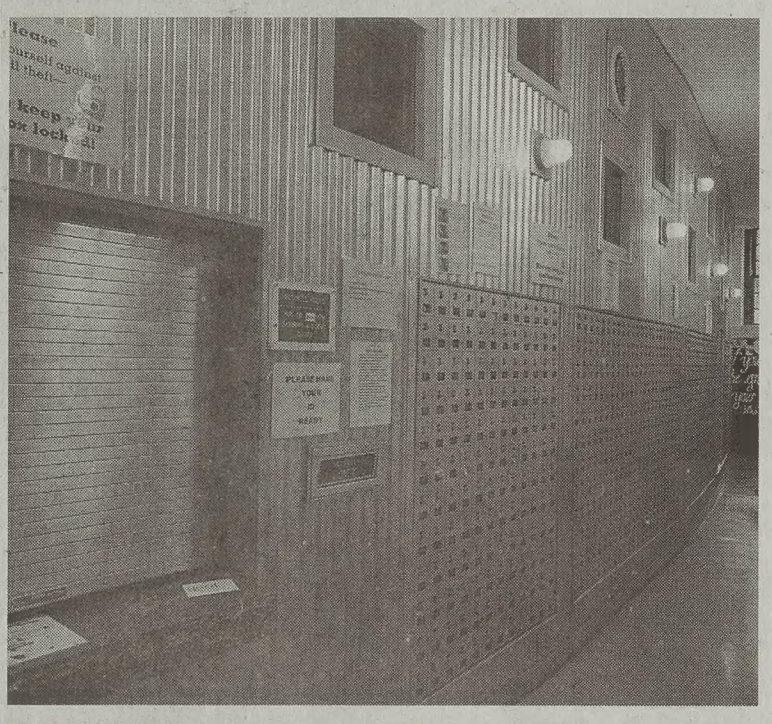
SABRINA TEMPLETON

Mail Center adjusts to over-enrollment, with some students receiving packages directly to their doorsteps



SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By LILY JONES
Online Editor

While the college has around 2800 students enrolled this year, the mail center has only 2628 mailboxes — posing a problem for the 300 or so additional students looking to receive mail. As a solution, the mail center has begun sending mail directly to the houses of certain students.

Jacki Galencamp, mail center supervisor, has overseen some changes to accommodate the influx of packages.

"Students living off campus and in three college owned houses — 48 South Street, Weybridge House, and Homestead — will be getting their mail and packages sent directly to their houses. Most students living in town were already having their mail and packages sent directly to them and didn't use their on-campus mailbox," she said.

This change was not immediately communicated and caused some initial confusion for students.

"I was never told by anyone beforehand that I was supposed to be sending packages to my house, so I ordered packages to the mail center and then they told me," Tanya Chen '24, a resident of Weybridge House, said.

Will Reed '23.5, who lives at 48 South Street (known as KDR), was also frustrated with the college's lack of communication and discovered the policy change after he visited the mail center and was informed by an employee.

"But I actually am really, really happy about the change," Reed said. "It makes it easier for all of the obvious reasons — less back and forth, no unnecessary time wasted."

While Chen said that she is fine with the change overall, it may cause some unintended complications when it comes to her student visa status.

"I am an international student, so for tax documents in the U.S., it's frustrating if my address keeps changing," Chen said. "If I do have to continue changing my address every year it will be hard to keep up with that."

On-campus students are permitted to keep their student mailbox and address.

Other structural changes this year have resulted in adjusted workloads for mail center employees. With increased student enrollment, the college has housed about 60 undergraduates at the Bread Loaf campus for the first time this fall, with others housed at the Inn on the Green and Marriott Hotel in town. There is an additional mail center at Bread Loaf, but the 20 students living at the Inn on the Green and 15 at the Marriott Hotel should still receive their mail from the on-campus mail center. Packages for the college bookstore will also be processed in the mail center due to the limited space of the Crest Room, where the bookstore is now located.

First cases on campus this year put college Covid-19 policy to the test

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ing from once a month to twice per week after a substantial increase in identified cases — at that time there were 30 students in isolation. Bowdoin also increased its alert level, restricting indoor dining capacity and gathering sizes. Bowdoin has not identified a positive student case since Sept. 14.

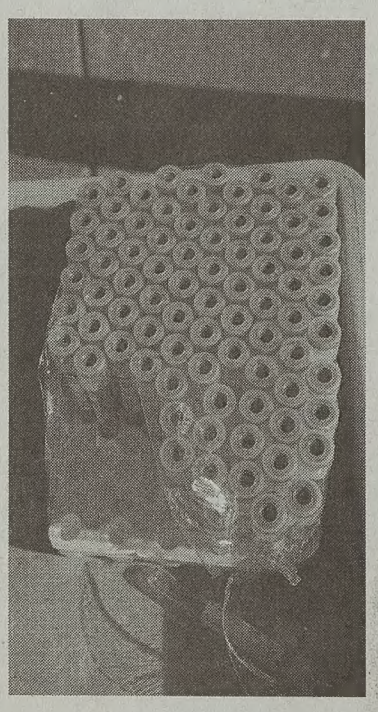
After identifying eight positive cases on campus the week of Aug. 31, Bates College in Lewiston, ME announced that students would be tested twice per week, as a measure to prevent a large-scale outbreak, on top of other health and safety guidelines.

"This ongoing testing is critical to understand the transmission of Covid-19 on campus, particularly among individuals who are asymptomatic, and will provide the data we need to determine whether additional public health measures are necessary to protect the health of the community," Joshua McIntosh, vice president for campus life at Bates, told students.

McIntosh also said the school is prepared to further increase testing — as well as restrict building access, off campus travel and gathering sizes — if case counts increase substantially.

Tufts University also increased their regular student testing from weekly to twice weekly on Sept. 14 after a rise in cases. The Medford, Mass. school identified 85 cases on campus in the last seven days.

Middlebury is the only NESCAC school not testing students across the student population at least once



SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

per week, with most schools testing all students once or twice per week.

"We are ready to ramp up testing for all students if needed and would do so if prevalence indicates it is needed," Ferrante said.

Ferrante did not say what threshold would trigger widespread testing. The Fall 2021 Campus Guide states that "Decisions about testing — including how often and how many students or employees are tested throughout the semester — will be informed by the health conditions of Addison County and Vermont, campus health conditions, and applicable guidance or requirements."

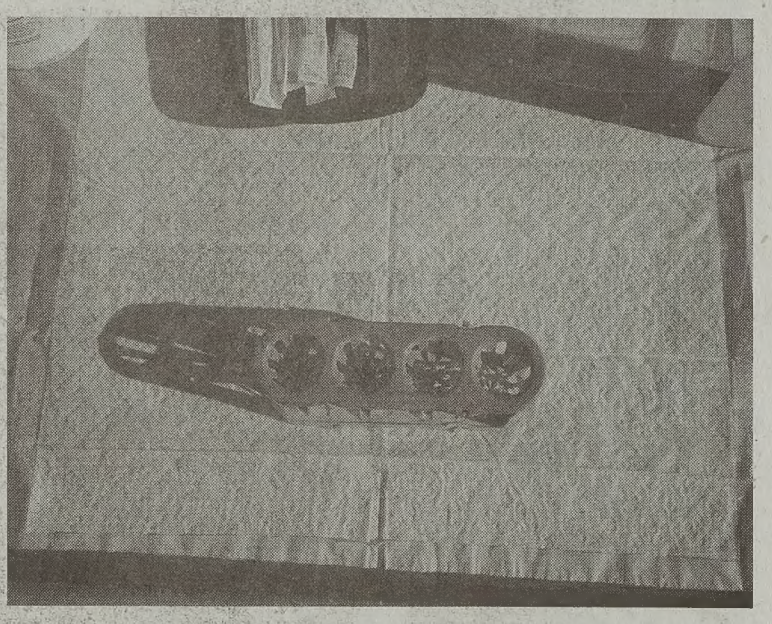
Vermont registered its highest single-day increase in positive Covid-19 cases of the entire pandemic last week.

"We know that the best course of action is for all students, faculty, and staff to follow the protocols in place and do everything we can to prevent an outbreak," Ferrante said. "That is one of the reasons we decided to require pre-arrival testing"— a measure not undertaken by most NESCACS — "and masks indoors, and we will consider additional measures as conditions evolve."

A Sept. 16 email from Dean of Students Derek Doucet noted that the college's pre-arrival testing had identified 16 positive Covid-19 cases.

Though Ferrante did not outline Middlebury's specific plan for managing an outbreak, she described the options available to Middlebury if case counts increase.

"If we were to identify an increase in cases on campus, we have several options: limiting travel to Vermont, or to Addison County or implementing a campus quarantine for a period of time," Ferrante said. "Given that 99 percent of our students will be vaccinated, we also offer the option for students to recover at an off-campus location if they are medically cleared to do so."



SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Campus spoke with Jessie* '24, who tested positive for Covid-19 and is currently in isolation housing. Jessie said they had begun to feel unwell early last week but did not believe they had Covid-19.

Jessie was tested as a part of the international student arrival-testing process. According to Middlebury's Fall 2021 Campus Guide, all students arriving from an international point of origin completed a week of arrival testing — students received a test upon arrival and were tested again twice in the following week.

Jessie said that while they provided the student health center with their list of close contacts, they felt, with the increased transmissibility of the Delta Variant, it was difficult to know if they might have exposed anyone else. Jessie said they attended classes last week before receiving their positive test, but ate meals in their room.

Ferrante said that students experiencing even mild symptoms should immediately seek testing at the Health Center.

**Jessie is a pseudonym used to protect the anonymity of a student.*

News in Brief

Professors call for fair wages amid return to in-person teaching

By RACHEL LU
Staff Writer

As professors return to teach in packed classrooms, many are also advocating for fair compensation. According to the Middlebury chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), from June 2020 to June 2021, major sources of college revenue, including endowment returns and tuition fees, have increased by 20%. The AAUP also claimed that, in that same time, college employees have only seen their wages grow 2% while inflation has risen as much as 6%, leaving faculty and staff with a lower income than two years ago.

Three members of of the AAUP, president of the group and Professor of Mathematics Mike Olinick, vice president and Professor of Economics Peter Matthews, and former president and Director of Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies Laurie Essig, wrote a joint statement to The Campus expressing their concern about fair compensation on campus.

"This decline in real wages has happened at a time when, as no one would disagree, faculty and staff have never worked harder, and under the shadow of possible benefit reductions," they said.

They noted that anecdotally, faculty members at Middlebury are working more hours to support students' experiences at the college. Professors are working overtime to switch pedagogies between online and in-person learning environments, and staff members are making transitions to ensure safety precautions are in place in public spaces on campus.

"This decline in real wages has happened at a time when, as no one would disagree, faculty and staff have never worked harder, and under the shadow of possible benefit reductions."

"[We] fear that if these trends are not soon reversed, morale will decline further and the ties that bind us as a community will fray," Olinick, Matthews and Essig said.

CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE AND COURSE REGISTRATION SUFFER AS OVER-ENROLLED MIDDLEBURY RETURNS TO IN-PERSON CLASSES

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first. Still, some have struggled to switch into classes they wanted or needed.

The new pressures of over-enrollment in classes and limited course options has raised questions surrounding the value of tuition, which was increased by 2.5% in February 2021.

McEnroe agreed, saying that her parents were upset. "They're like, 'How do we send you when you're not even taking the classes you're supposed to be there for?'"

While students search for spots in already full courses, faculty are also struggling with the consequences of over-enrollment as the college transitions back to in-person learning. Facing classrooms filled above capacity and heightened concerns about Covid-19, some professors are pushing for safer classrooms and better compensation.

"The room is bursting at the seams and feels extremely unsafe in terms of capacity, ventilation, and distancing," said Eilat Glikman, associate professor of physics, of the classroom assigned to her for the fall.

Glikman is returning to campus this fall after a full year of remote teaching. While she looks forward to resuming in-person teaching, she is frustrated with the college's Covid-19 classroom policies for capacity limits.

According to her, classrooms were not designed to accommodate the college's over-enrollment. In a cramped room where some students cannot sit facing the blackboard, Glickman believes her teaching has been affected negatively by these compromises. And as even more students than before the pandemic squeeze into classrooms, physical distancing is often impossible to maintain.

Glikman is also concerned with students' relaxed attitudes about appropriate face mask use, which makes for a nerve-wracking teaching experience.

"I see a lot of poorly fitted masks, and a lot of exposed noses. Students will drink during class pulling their masks down," Glikman said.

The buzz on wasps

Continued from Page 1

out spaces between walls, and college horticulturalist Tim Parsons said he removed one nest from between the two window panes of one unfortunate student's dorm room.

Depending on the year, the landscape team might remove anywhere between 10 and 30 bee and wasp nests a week, often by suctioning them out with a shop vacuum. This year, though, they are struggling. Over-enrollment is stretching their already-limited resources even thinner.

The landscape team is severely understaffed. They're missing one out of their standard roster of 14, and they were only able to hire one out of the normal five seasonal workers they bring on for the busy fall time. They are now examining options to contract out wasp removal to relieve the burden on the limited workers, according to Parsons.

Wasp season should end in the next few weeks, before the time of the first frost. Before they die, the male wasps — "flying sperm packets" with little use beyond reproduction, according to Pask — will mate with future queens. The fertilized females will fatten up to "hibernate" over the winter before leaving the nest to form their own colonies next spring.

In the meantime, Parsons said it's best to "leave them be, no pun intended," and hope you don't have Reinkemeyer's extraordinary bad luck.

Since his unfortunate experience, Reinkemeyer has taken to eating his meals indoors. If the weather is particularly nice, he might be tempted to brave the wasps and eat outside. But he'll be carefully inspecting any food he puts in his mouth from now on.

Shirley Mao/The Middlebury Campus

Middlebury's wasps attack an abandoned breakfast dish. The pesky swarms are primarily yellowjacket wasps, according to Assistant Professor of Biology Greg Pask, who studies insect neurobiology.

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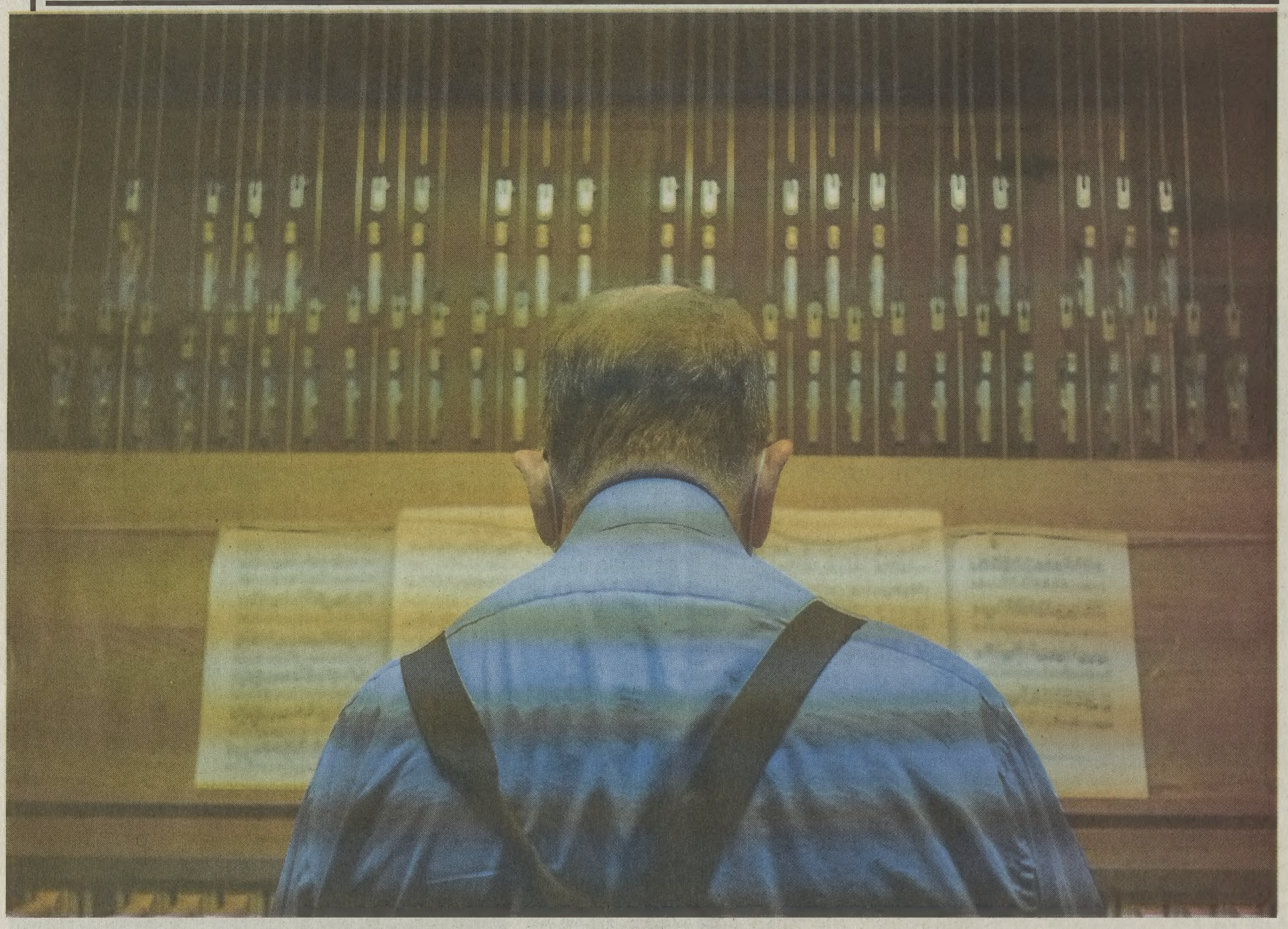
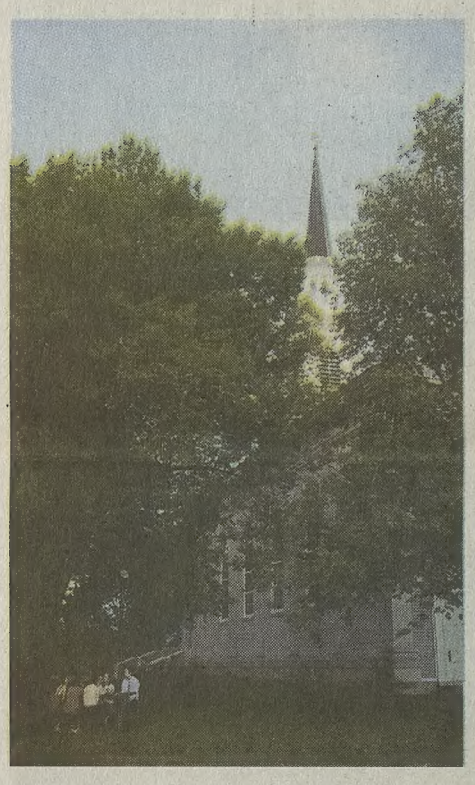
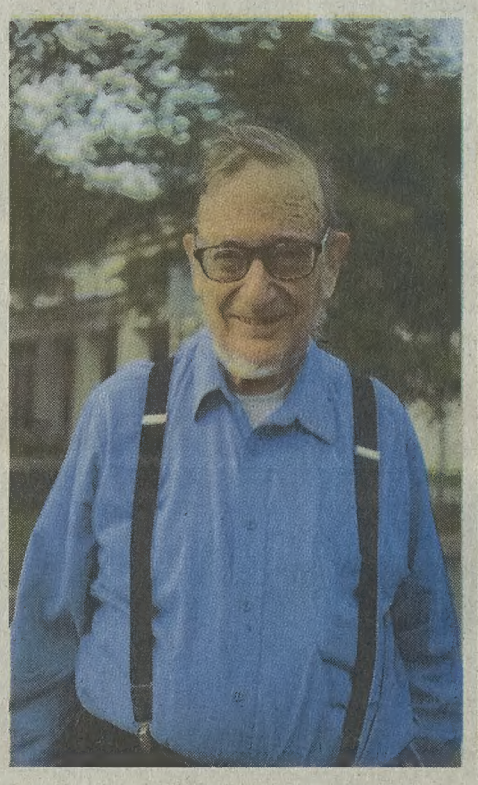


Songs From Dusk

By FLORENCE WU
Local Editor



Students sitting in front of the chapel while George plays the carillon in the top chamber, hidden behind trees.



George Matthew Jr., the college's carillonneur.

The clappers of the carillon and the bells overhead. The carillon has numerous pedals which are connected to individual bells. As a result, it requires a high level of coordination.

I did not know what to expect when I waited for George in front of Mead Memorial Chapel at 5:30 p.m. I have only heard the instrument from afar. When the sun falls behind the trees and paints the late summer sky pink and blue, then, you hear the bells, opening with the same tune every day.

The 75-step climb to the top of the chapel was arduous. With amazement, I watched George, who is 86, navigate the steep wooden stairs and low ceilings with a familiarity that only comes with decades of repetition. As the college's carillonneur, George Matthew Jr. has climbed these stairs since 1986.

> "I have played here for 36 years, and I have no intention to stop."

"I have played here for 36 years, and I have no intention to stop," he said.

For all the time I've spent at the college, I have never seen the instrument behind our

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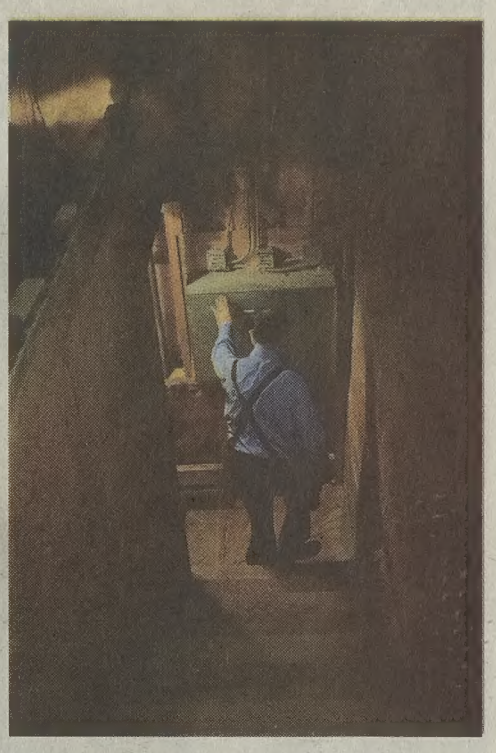
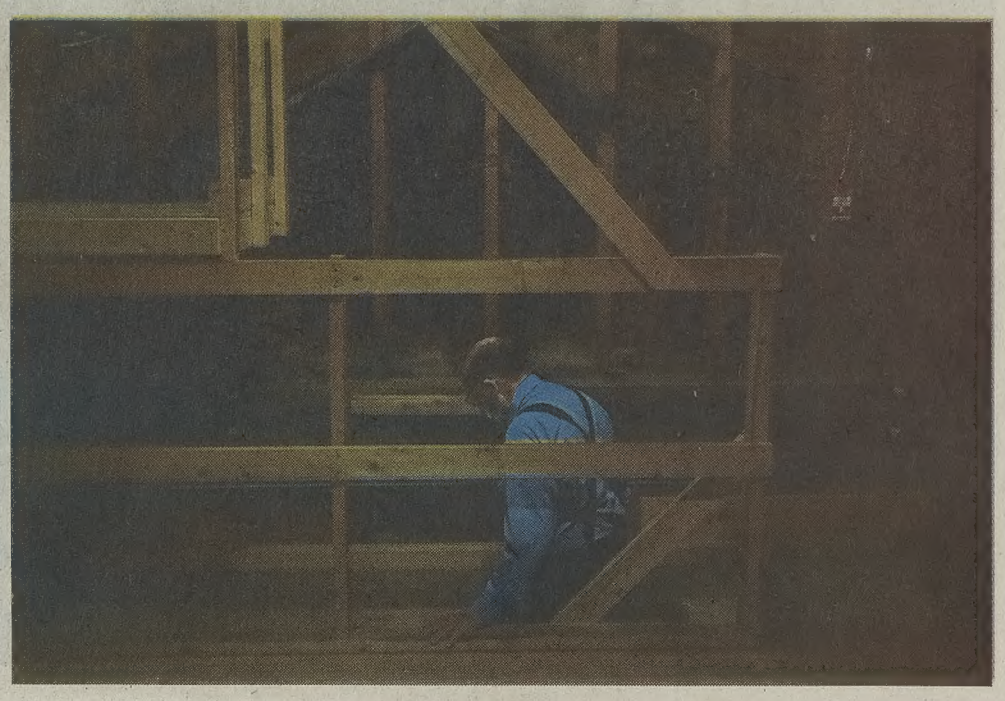
The various sized bells of the carillon, which hang above the room that has the key board. Our carillon has 48 bells in total. Its first 11 bells were installed in 1915 and it was enlarged to its present size in 1986.



George making the 75-step climb to the carillon. While his performance schedule this year is still unclear, he played and made the ascent and descent almost every day last year.



The Arcadian closes doors indefinitely due to debilitating employee shortage

By MAGGIE REYNOLDS
Local Editor

A local restaurant served its final meal this past Saturday, September 18, and entered a period of indefinite closure.

The Arcadian, located at 7 Bakery Lane in Middlebury, announced via Facebook on Aug. 26 that it would be closing its doors due to a severe staffing shortage.

"Having successfully navigated the darkest days of Covid, we thought the hardest part was behind us," the Facebook post read. "As it turns out, the staffing crisis that has gripped our industry on every level was ultimately an insurmountable challenge to our operational goals at night."

According to Matt Corrente, co-owner of the Arcadian, it was initially a struggle to find enough staff to open the restaurant for normal hours during the summer.

"Heading into the summer, [we were] looking to staff up and replace some of the positions lost due to downsizing," he said.

Matt Corrente said that the restaurant was ultimately able to put together a patchwork team of part-time employees, which mainly consisted of college students

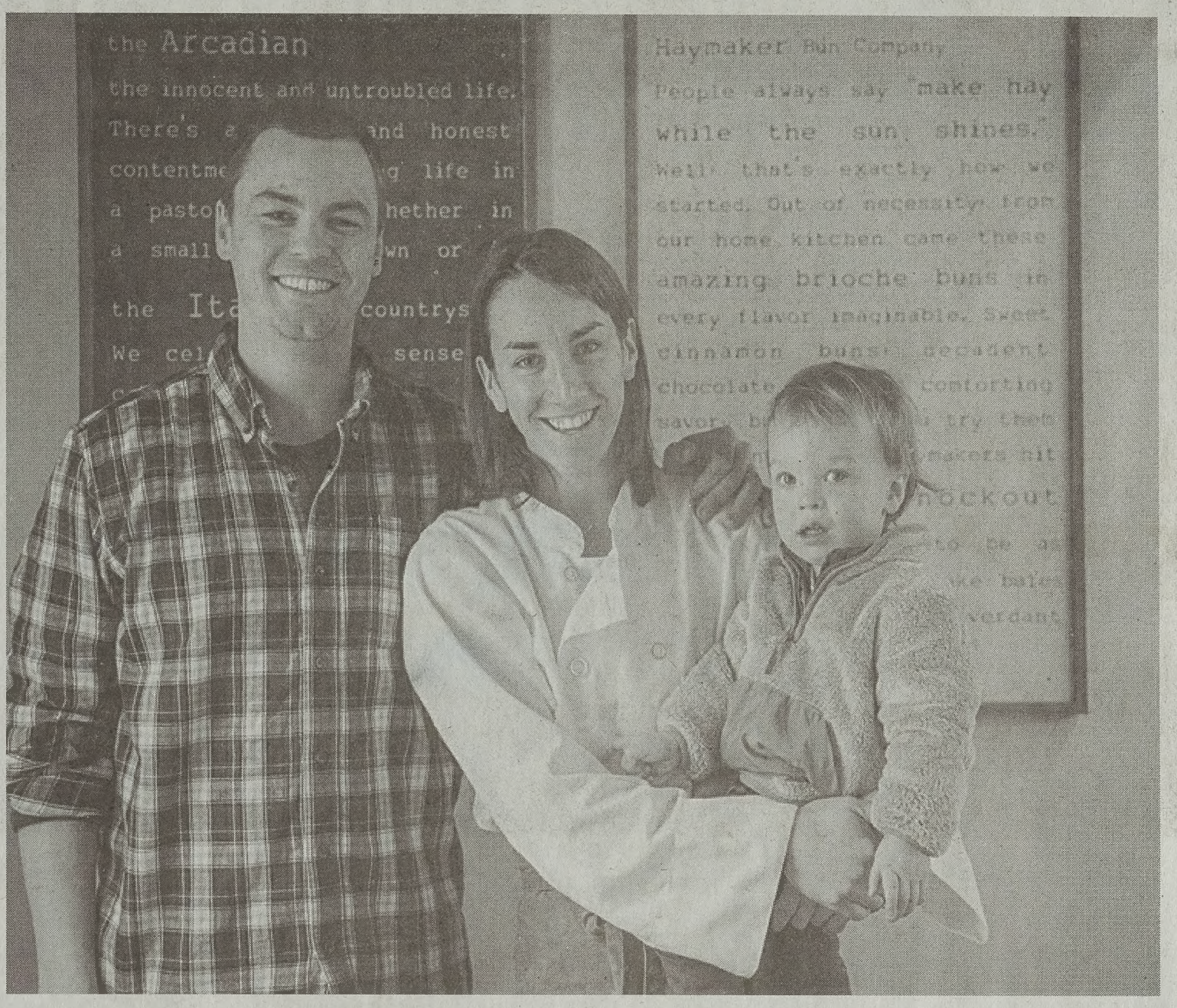


PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE CORRENTE

Matt and Caroline Corrente, co-owners of the Arcadian, pose with their son inside the restaurant.

> "Having successfully navigated the darkest days of Covid, we thought the hardest part was behind us."

from Castleton University and the University of Vermont for the summer months. However, many of these employees had to move on toward the end of August as they graduated or returned to a full-time class schedule.

"The return to school season hit us pretty hard," Matt Corrente said. "That was just too much of a loss to rebuild and expect to stay open."

According to Matt Corrente, despite the reluctance of many to return to indoor dining during parts of the pandemic, the Arcadian did not struggle to attract customers this past summer. Rather, the limiting factor all summer was their dwindling number of staff members.

"We had a surplus of demand all summer," he said. "[It was a] bummer not to be able to handle it head on with a robust team."

During the first wave of the pandemic in March 2020, Matt Corrente had to furlough nearly his entire team, he said, downsizing from 30 employees to four. This summer, the Arcadian got back up to 21 employees, but the difference of nine staff members from pre-pandemic times put a lot of stress on the team.

> "It is hard to hold up the same amount of weight in terms of the customer demand with a skeleton crew."

"It is hard to hold up the same amount of weight in terms of the customer demand with a skeleton crew," Matt Corrente said.

As a result of the smaller staff this summer, the restaurant had to switch to just serving dinner Wednesday through Saturday, rather than Tuesday through Saturday dinner and Sunday brunch, as they did in pre-pandemic times. In recent weeks, they were forced to reduce the hours further to just Friday and Saturday dinner.

Though the Arcadian is closing, the breakfast and lunch spot Haymaker Bun Company, which shares the same space, will remain open. Haymaker Buns opened at the same time as the Arcadian in November 2018 and is owned by Corrente's wife, Caroline Corrente. Caroline Corrente is also a co-owner of the Arcadian.

Though Haymaker also experienced some struggles with finding employees over the summer, they have mostly been able to retain staff heading into the fall and maintain their pre-pandemic hours of operation.

Caroline Corrente said that she has noticed that now people are often shying away from working night jobs at restaurants. "My theory is that people in general are more apt to want to work during the day," she said. "Our hours are a little more forgiving."

Though the closure of the Arcadian dismays both Matt and Caroline Corrente, Caroline Corrente said she is looking forward to focusing all of her energy toward growing Haymaker.

According to Caroline Corrente, as a result of the closure of the Arcadian, Haymaker will no longer have to stop serving lunch at 3 p.m. In addition, Haymaker may add an extra day of service, lengthen hours of operations and expand into catering or the wholesale distribution of frozen products.

"[We are] listening to the customers and hearing what they want more of," Caroline Corrente said.

After experiencing firsthand the impacts of labor shortages in the restaurant industry on the Arcadian, Corrente said she and her husband are urging the Middlebury community to support Haymaker in any way possible.

> "[We are] encouraging students to come out and show their support both as employees and as patrons."

"We've hired a lot of excellent Middlebury students in the past, and it's been a good place for people to learn," she said. "[We are] encouraging students to come out and show their support both as employees and as patrons."

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The Middlebury Campus

Middlebury staff require an overdue sense of urgency

editorial

The editorial represents the opinion of the Middlebury Campus editorial board.

This summer, when it became readily apparent that the student body would be significantly overenrolled for the fall 2021 semester, the college immediately sought out potential solutions. They made arrangements for dozens of students to live at the Bread Loaf campus and the Middlebury Marriott. Most notably, they purchased the Inn on the Green for $1.285 million.

In essence, Middlebury saw a problem and acted expediently to address it. Other critical issues on campus, however, have lacked this level of urgency, with one issue standing out in particular — the staffing shortage, which has now reached troubling levels.

> If the college has committed to enrolling over 300 extra students, they also need to display this same commitment to supporting those whose tireless work permits those students to be here in the first place.

This shortage did not occur overnight. Semblances of a labor deficit began to surface in late spring, giving the college more than enough time to anticipate this semester's staffing crisis. However, this crisis is playing out without any of the same urgency afforded to the housing crisis.

Dining halls are bare-boned in their staffing. Two dining hall workers had to relocate to staffing Bread Loaf. Facilities staff are supposedly down 30 people and are prepared to begin hiring subcontractors. Last week, student organizations were given funded volunteer opportunities to help out with set up and clean up at the Student Involvement Fair due to critical understaffing, and MiddView leaders were told that a central reason for this year's lack of orientation trips was the shortage of staff.

The student experience is deeply interwoven with that of the staff; every aspect of our time here depends on them. Therefore, this year's over-enrollment has put even more undue pressure on the staff. If the college has committed to enrolling over 300 extra students, they also need to display this same commitment to supporting those whose tireless work permits those students to be here in the first place.

Yes, Middlebury may be a microcosm of the larger national labor shortage. But it shouldn't have to be. As displayed in the college's purchase of the Inn, we have the financial resources to tackle problems as we see fit. But Middlebury gets to selectively choose what it considers to be investments, and whom it considers to be expendable.

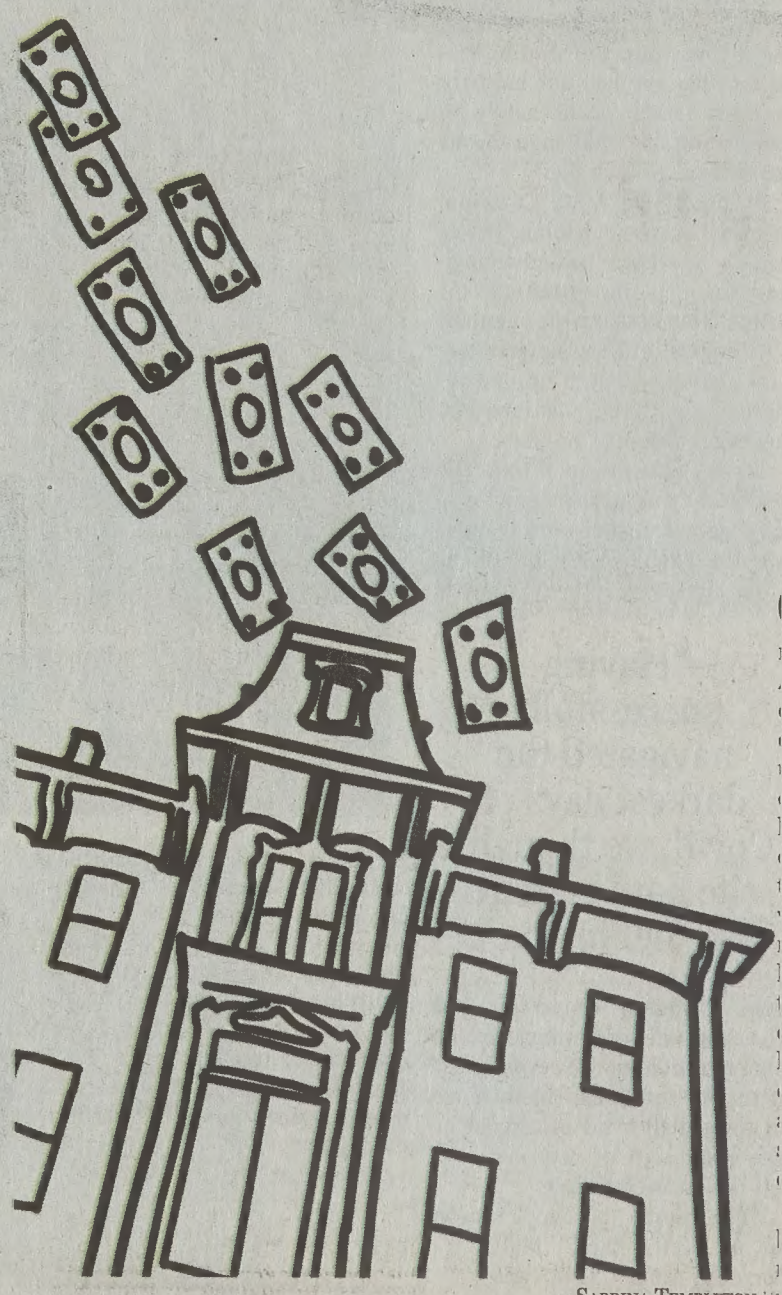
The college should be doing everything in its power to hire adequate numbers of staff and support them long-term. The $750 retention bonus for individuals who remain throughout the fall semester is evidently a short-term band-aid solution that fails to address the root causes of harm: an environment that necessitates one person doing the work of many, all for a below-livable wage. In addition, working at Middlebury still presents a constant health risk, particularly for staff members with children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated.

It is beyond clear that the people who feed us and clean up after us, those who work to keep this school running, deserve more. As a Board, we don't claim to know every intricacy of college finances and hiring practices, but we know from our weeks on campus thus far that actionable steps should have been taken long ago; many of our reporters have spent hours talking with staff members whose frustration is palpable.

> Ultimately, livable wages should be the floor — not the ceiling.

Ultimately, livable wages should be the floor — not the ceiling. Staff need to feel valued, day in and day out, and our attention towards them shouldn't falter if and when we hire the necessary numbers.

How Middlebury opts to handle this will be indicative of how they respond to future crises. We all know that the college has the ability to quickly mobilize its capital, and it's far past time they do so to support staff.



SABRINA TEMPLETON

Notes from the Desk: I miss you

Notes from the Desk

Sarah Miller '24 is an Opinion Editor for The Campus.

I remember with nauseating clarity when my high school boyfriend paused an episode of Black Mirror, turned to me, and said, "I think we should break up or go on a break for the summer." What I said in response has been erased in my memory by the brutal shock of the blow and the paradoxical feeling that I should have seen it coming. I felt the same way when my best friend at Midd told me she had decided to transfer.

It was the last minutes of a Thursday or the first minutes of a Friday too close to finals for anyone's comfort, and one of the first days Middlebury felt like home to me. The air just beyond Axinn's doors was surprisingly warm, and as I processed the pleasantness of this, my friend filled a momentary lapse in our conversation with the news of her decision. My other friends, who hadn't known she'd been considering transferring, must have expressed their shock. But I was too preoccupied by the strain of attempting to keep my face neutral and my voice even to process their reactions.

Those efforts were likely wasted; my face is useless at disguising my feelings. Her transfer was a possibility I'd known about since October, but when she told us her decision I realized I never believed she wouldn't stay. That night, once we left Axinn and reached the entrance to our dorm, I could tell she wanted me to hang back with our other friend so we could talk, but I claimed exhaustion, feeling righteously annoyed by the inconsiderate hour she chose to break her news.

Back in my dorm, I listened to music in the single use bathroom (my roommate had long since fallen asleep), sent a long volley of texts to my mom, and eventually tried to get some sleep myself. The last two weeks of my semester were consumed by trying to spend

> ...because you leave your family behind, at college, your friends become your family and essential support system.

as much time with her as possible and my anticipatory grief over a Middlebury without her.

When a relationship or a situationship (as we Middlebury students are so familiar with) ends, it can be devastating, but there is certain comfort to be found in breakup rituals. I find it easy to talk about breakups, to come up with pejorative nicknames for my exes (what can I say, I'm a writer) and to receive the ready sympathy of my friends. There are inadequate rituals and language to describe the loss of a friend.

When I returned home, I was also processing the end of a situationship which I talked about at length to friends from home. I talked less about my friend's infinitely more devastating transfer. If I did, it often felt awkward, like my friends avoided the topic, not due to a lack of empathy but because they didn't know what to say.

I've been fortunate to have many deep relationships with friends that bring me great solace and joy; however, my relationship with her was unlike any friendship before, just by virtue of her being a college friend. Before leaving for college, one of my cousins told me that because you leave your family behind at college your friends become your family and essential support system.

My friend lived two floors above my room. I knocked on her door to borrow peanut butter, solicit opinions on dresses, cry and everything in between. She was my family and her absence from campus is still a loss that stings keenly.

I mourn the future we could have had together. She's still a close friend of mine, but we live on opposite coasts, and she likely won't be in my life in the same capacity, neither in college nor after it, than if she had stayed at Middlebury. Campus feels lonelier without her and I expect it to remain that way for some time. I've been reassured that I will eventually find other friends who fill the void she left, but I'll never find another her, just like she will never find another me.

Our culture is one that tends to valorize romantic relationships sometimes (unfortunately in my case) at the expense of friendships.

> Our culture is one that tends to valorize romantic relationships sometimes (unfortunately in my case) at the expense of friendships.

This holds especially true for me, as both a college student and a woman. The unparalleled and continued grief over my friend's transfer taught me at this point in my life I value and need friendships far more than romance — a lesson I think most people learn far before 14th grade, but one I'm grateful to have learned.

In All About Love, bell hooks writes we are taught love will foremost come from our romantic relationships, but she argues it is our friendships which ground us and teach us how to love. At this stage in my life, and quite possibly for the rest of my life, I have found my deepest and most fulfilling relationships to be with my friends;

> I've been reassured that I will eventually find other friends who fill the void she left, but I'll never find another her, just like she will never find another me.

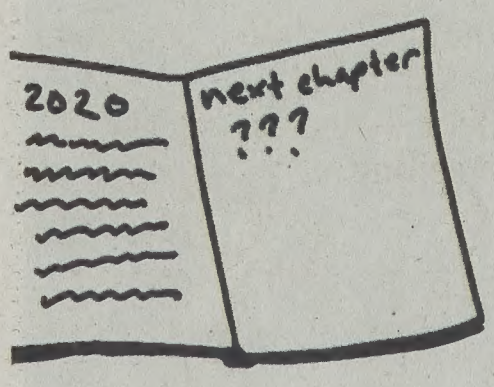
however, in conversation, conflicts and breakups can feel secondary to the consuming, less devastating, "juicier" boy drama.

In some senses, it's reductive to compare friendships to romantic relationships, diminishing the value of both by creating such a binary; however, I seek not to diminish the value of romance but to elevate the importance and weight with which we discuss friendships.

I don't talk about my friend's transfer much, mostly to avoid getting too emotional, and because it's an ache that has yet to dissipate, boring in its perseverance. It's an ache that swells at odd moments (by the McCullough printer where I printed her return labels because she could never figure out Papercut, the back entrance of Hep, etc.) or just when I'm especially lonely.

A couple of nights ago, I was talking with a guy and I started to cry. Some girls enveloped and comforted me assuming I was just another girl crying over a boy, a ritual of sisterhood. The assumption wasn't completely incorrect, a guy I'd once hooked up with had prompted some tears, but it was another guy's question that had precipitated my tears: if I missed my friend.

Returning to before



Op-Ed

Haley Hutchinson is a member of the class of 2023.5.

Over a year into the Covid-19 era, and it seems that things might be finally turning around. Are the long anticipated moments of mask unveiling and social gatherings and in-person classes upon us? With recent vaccine developments in the U.S., many of us have replaced skepticism with optimism. That is not to say that the world is healed, because that would be far from the truth. Tremendous positive case spikes and limited access to vaccines in countries overseas, as well as the power of new virus variants, are very harsh realities that still must be considered and addressed. Over a year into the Covid-19 era, and still we are left to navigate an ever-ebbing world.

As Covid-19 restrictions have begun to lift, the return to "normal" life is becoming more of a reality and less of a fantasy. The feeling of being allowed to gather with large groups of people again, dine in at your favorite restaurant on actual plates, get back on the playing field or in the gym, not to mention beginning to physically see the faces in full of those people you pass on the sidewalk or work with, can be overwhelming. There's relief and pure happiness and elation and a sense of freedom. But there may also be a sense of bittersweetness, of nostalgia, of discomfort. You may find yourself questioning these conflicting emotions. And that's OK. Just as so many of us were anxious to leave the normal behind at the start of the pandemic, it makes sense that as we make yet another alteration in lifestyle and move away from the Covid-19 bubble, some of that anxiety returns.

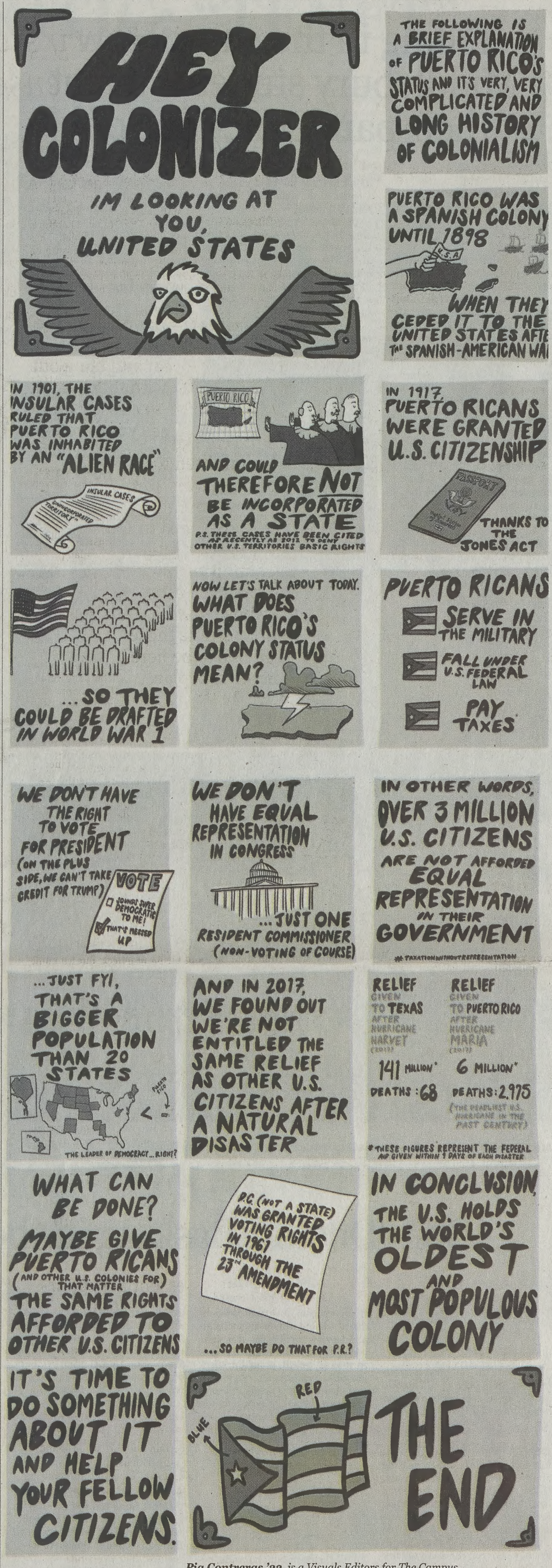
For all of the hardship, loss, confusion and tears the pandemic era has fostered, there has also been joy, laughter, new beginnings, and fresh directions. In an instant, we were forced to establish new routines and ways of life. And along the way, we made new connections, perhaps learned more about ourselves and those around us, and simply put, lived life in a different light. So now what? With all of the long-awaited anticipation of life returning to "normal," it might be just around the corner. But are we ready for it?

Like any species, humans adapt. The pandemic gave us a chance to do just that — change in ways to make the most out of our environments while taking care of ourselves and those around us. Although it may have taken a while for some of us, we eventually came to rationalize another normal way of life. Here we stand on this brink of yet another new chapter — the return to Before. And while some of us may be more than ready to take the first plunge at top speed, others might be a little more hesitant. A year and a half is more than enough time to lose sight of old habits and routines. How do we remember what class is like without having to unmute yourself on Zoom? Or rush into Proctor after a hard practice with your teammates and squish as many of you as possible around the table? Or meet someone for the first time and instead of only being met with their eyes, getting to know their smile?

I don't have the answers to these questions, but I suspect that just as we adapted to pandemic life, we will also be able to successfully address this new and exciting chapter. Instead of moving back to a time before the pandemic, we are moving forward into a new space as better people, neighbors, students and friends. Changes in our ways of life will be gradual, as we have already seen in many instances. An important step is recognizing that the future's not set, and may not be familiar, and that's OK.

> Like any species, humans adapt. The pandemic gave us a chance to do just that — change in ways to make the most out of our environments while taking care of ourselves and those around us.

Over the course of this strange time, we have learned about humanity. Together we are equipped to support one another in moving forward towards a fresh beginning while still not forgetting the lessons we have gleaned and the experiences we have had. I have learned that transition is challenging in any facet, and that feeling anxious about the reopening of our society is normal, perhaps even expected. It's okay to feel nervous or sad or scared, or even hesitant. These emotions and apprehensions are what make us human. And who are we really, if not human?


HEY COLONIZER
IM LOOKING AT YOU, UNITED STATES
THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS AND IT'S VERY, VERY COMPLICATED AND LONG HISTORY OF COLONIALISM
PUERTO RICO WAS A SPANISH COLONY UNTIL 1898
U.S.A.
WHEN THEY CEDED IT TO THE UNITED STATES AFTE THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WA
IN 1901, THE INSULAR CASES RULED THAT PUERTO RICO WAS INHABITED BY AN "ALIEN RACE"
INSULAR CASES
UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY
PUERTO RICO
AND COULD THEREFORE NOT BE INCORPORATED AS A STATE
P.S. THESE CASES HAVE BEEN CITED AS RECENTLY AS 2022 TO DENY OTHER U.S. TERRITORIES BASIC RIGHTS
IN 1917, PUERTO RICANS WERE GRANTED U.S. CITIZENSHIP
PASSPORT
THANKS TO THE JONES ACT
...SO THEY COULD BE DRAFTED IN WORLD WAR 1
NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT TODAY. WHAT DOES PUERTO RICO'S COLONY STATUS MEAN?
PUERTO RICANS
SERVE IN THE MILITARY
FALL UNDER U.S. FEDERAL LAW
PAY TAXES
WE DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR PRESIDENT (ON THE PLUS SIDE, WE CAN'T TAKE CREDIT FOR TRUMP)
VOTE
SOUNDS SUPER DEMOCRATIC TO ME!
THAT'S MESSED UP
WE DON'T HAVE EQUAL REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS
...JUST ONE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER (NON-VOTING OF COURSE)
IN OTHER WORDS, OVER 3 MILLION U.S. CITIZENS ARE NOT AFFORDED EQUAL REPRESENTATION IN THEIR GOVERNMENT
*TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION
...JUST FYI, THAT'S A BIGGER POPULATION THAN 20 STATES
PUERTO RICO
THE LEADER OF DEMOCRACY... RIGHT?
AND IN 2017, WE FOUND OUT WE'RE NOT ENTITLED THE SAME RELIEF AS OTHER U.S. CITIZENS AFTER A NATURAL DISASTER
RELIEF GIVEN TO TEXAS AFTER HURRICANE HARVEY (2017)
141 MILLION*
DEATHS: 68
RELIEF GIVEN TO PUERTO RICO AFTER HURRICANE MARIA (2017)
6 MILLION*
DEATHS: 2,975
(THE DEADLIEST U.S. HURRICANE IN THE PAST CENTURY)
*THESE FIGURES REPRESENT THE FEDERAL AID GIVEN WITHIN 7 DAYS OF EACH DISASTER
WHAT CAN BE DONE?
MAYBE GIVE PUERTO RICANS (AND OTHER U.S. COLONIES FOR THAT MATTER) THE SAME RIGHTS AFFORDED TO OTHER U.S. CITIZENS
D.C. (NOT A STATE) WAS GRANTED VOTING RIGHTS IN 1961 THROUGH THE 23RD AMENDMENT
...SO MAYBE DO THAT FOR P.R.?
IN CONCLUSION, THE U.S. HOLDS THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND MOST POPULOUS COLONY
IT'S TIME TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT AND HELP YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS.
BLUE
RED
THE END

Pia Contreras '22 is a Visuals Editors for The Campus.

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Email pbowman@middlebury.edu with submissions

Filling in the gaps: How Middlebury students spent their pandemic time off

By MAGGIE REYNOLDS
Local Editor

A week into the semester, the excitement of being back on campus is still palpable. Dining halls have been buzzing with talk of summer plans as friends reconnect after the three-month break.

But time away from campus was far longer than three months for some students. While many Middlebury students chose to return to campus last fall in the midst of pandemic social distancing and quarantine requirements, a number of others elected to take a semester or full year off, pursuing other opportunities instead.

According to Brett Perlmutter '24, fewer chances to socialize and meet new people deterred him from returning to campus for the fall semester.

"I love to interact with people," Perlmutter said. "And with that taken away, [returning to campus] didn't feel like the right choice, so I opted to do something that was slightly different."

Julianna Haensly '23.5 and Caroline Haggerty '24.5, on the other hand, were on campus for the fall of 2020. However, after experiencing online classes, room capacity limits and close contacts, both Haensly and Haggerty elected to take the spring semester off.

"I wanted more out of my college experience," Haensly said. "It wasn't worth it to me to come back and feel like I wasn't getting that whole college experience."

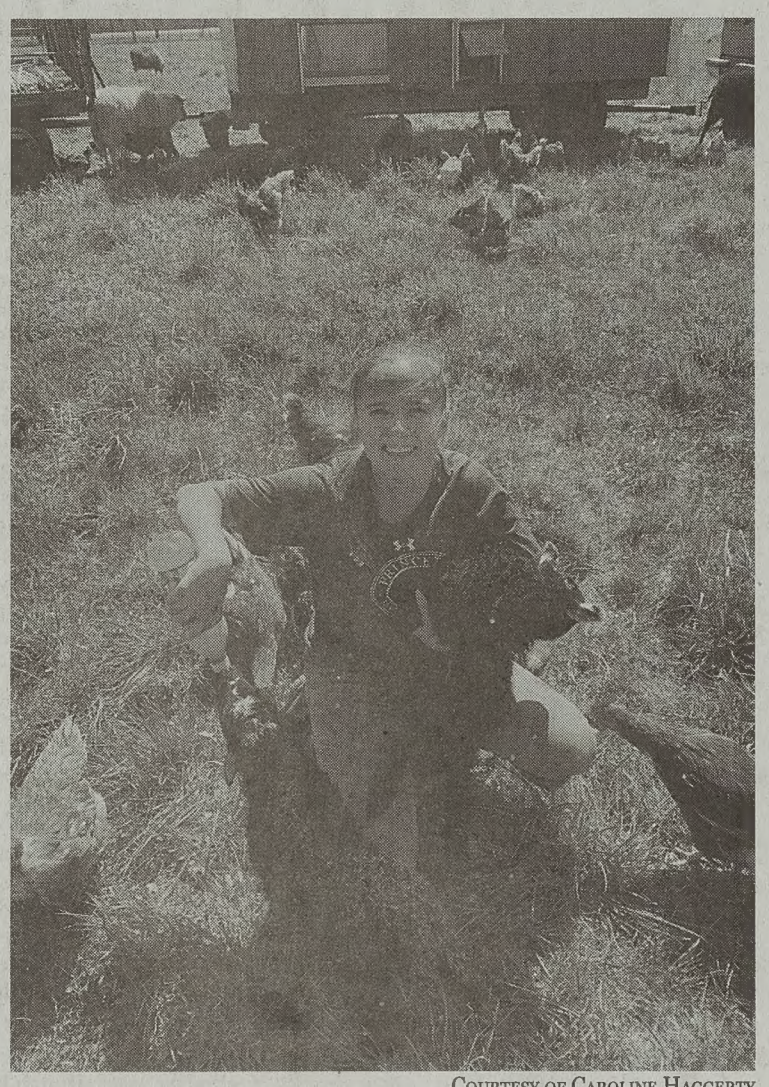
After coming to the conclusion that taking time off was the best choice, these students were tasked with finding fulfilling ways to spend it.

"I had a lot of plans and goals, and it ended up being a lot of randomness," said Haensly.

That "randomness" included interning with a Boulder-based nonprofit that provides cultural integration to immigrants, teaching a weekly remedial math class to middle schoolers via Zoom, coaching for a local swim club and volunteering at a food bank.

Through a farm work exchange program World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF), Haggerty was able to split her three months between a farm in Hawaii and a farm in Wisconsin. While living on the farms, she was exposed to different political beliefs and lifestyles, did manual labor and learned about the value of the agricultural industry.

> "If you can't see your friends — eat and hang out with them — go to classes, and see your professors face to face, there's no point."



COURTESY OF CAROLINE HAGGERTY

Caroline Haggerty spent her semester off at farm work exchange programs in Hawaii and Wisconsin.

COURTESY OF SCOTT LI

Scott Li took fall semester off last year and worked on a film crew in Hengdian, China.

"I wouldn't have done it without Covid, but I am so glad that I did it. I gained a different perspective on a lot of things, and I am definitely grateful that I was able to have that experience," she said.

Scott Li '23.5 had the choice between taking the fall semester off or studying remotely, as he could not travel to Vermont from his home in China. It was pretty clear to him, though, that the best option was to take the semester off.

"One of the most important things for college is the college experience," Li said. "If you can't see your friends — eat and hang out with them — go to classes, and see your professors face to face, there's no point."

Although he is a STEM student, Li ended up working on a film crew in Hengdian, China — a place well known for movie making, he said. Despite having no prior experience in the world of film, Li said he learned a lot in a short period of time, as he took on the role of directing the extras on when to enter a scene.

After his adventures on the movie crew, Li feels like a new person returning to campus. "To live this simple, pure kind of life after experiencing what I've experienced [on] the movie crew, it feels really good," he said.

Like Li, Perlmutter found himself gaining real-world experiences different from anything he could have done at Middlebury on his year off. Perlmutter worked two internships — with a private equity firm and a podcast — while living on the island of Kauai, Hawaii with a friend from another college.

"Within a week, our two best friends on the island were two 31-year-old guys," Perlmutter said. "We created this community [in Hawaii] that I didn't want to walk away from."

Perlmutter shared similar sentiments about the impact his time away had on his perspective of life at Middlebury. "I have a very different perspective of what my college experience is now going to look like in a great way," he said. "Middlebury is a great place to teach you how to think."

Zev York '23.5 also spent his time off in places very different from rural Vermont. After working on a political campaign leading up to the November elections, he road-tripped across the country to Santa Fe and then worked as a beekeeper in the south of France.

"I found a lot of spiritual meaning in the experience of road tripping," he said.

Though all five students found themselves bringing a new, refreshed outlook to life at Middlebury this fall, it was nerve-wracking to step back into the campus environment after taking time off.

"I was really nervous about having a disconnect, but it feels like I haven't missed a beat," Haensly said. "I'm getting back into my groove, and it feels right and normal."

"It's really cool to come back and have everyone be in the same place," York said. "It feels like the chance of a lifetime to be around people I really care about."

Spin Doctor: Basking in the "Doomin' Sun"

By YARDENA CARMI
Columnist

Welcome to the first installment of Spin Doctor, a biweekly dose of music reviews and recommendations by Yardena Carmi '23.

Our current culture seems to be defined by an ever-increasing ability to hyperfixate and obsess. If there is an actor or athlete you like, their life story is immediately accessible through Wikipedia and social media. Your crush from class is probably also on Instagram, where you can analyze their public life — where they go, who they see, their favorite snacks — at your leisure.

What does it mean when we start using the same platforms and tools to study our idols as we do to interact with our friends? In 1956, psychologists Donald Horton and Richard Wohl coined the term "parasocial relationship" to describe one-sided friendships forming between everyday people and the daytime TV hosts they had begun to identify with from afar.

Six decades later, we have fandoms and cultures that exist entirely online, through which one's desire and capacity to invest themselves in a stranger becomes something close to a way of life.

In "Back of My Hand," the first track on the album "Doomin' Sun" from new indie group "Bachelor," a celebrity crush becomes real life as the narrator hangs uneasily in a space somewhere between girlfriend and fan, love and codependency, unsure if she wants to actually date her hero or just wishes she could be her. The speaker begins to negate herself — holding back emotions, questioning her own thoughts, skipping meals and compromising herself in an attempt to better suit her new partner.

Obsessive love is a core theme for Bachelor, a collaboration between two already well-established indie rockers, Palehound and Jay Som. According to the duo, they drew inspiration for their name from the hit reality dating show franchise. But in "Doomin' Sun," love isn't all flowers and chocolate. Instead, it becomes blood, spiders, melted ice cream and lost sleep as the album's loose narrative explores a romance that doesn't live up to the infatuation that preceded it.

> Obsessive love is a core theme for Bachelor...

Palehound and Jay Som emerged around the same time in the indie scene but on opposite coasts. On their own, both artists have been making some of the most refreshing and earnest indie rock and pop released in the past five or so years. Now united as Bachelor, they marry their respective gifts into a unique, collaborative sound. The raw, grungy guitar riffs on songs such as "Sand Angel" and "Anything at All" are signature Palehound. The infectious vocal and synth melodies have Jay Som's distinctive pop-y touch, buoying tracks — such as the aforementioned "Back of My Hand" — that are otherwise emotionally devastating.

Other songs, such as the riotous "Stay in the Car," are lighter and more fun. The real-life friendship between the two musicians is a tangible element of the album's sound (and can be seen in the colorful and campy music videos Bachelor has released). They even include sound bites of themselves goofing around in the studio. Having lived, however, through the part of the 2010s where it seemed like everyone and their mom (ahem, SZA) was putting voicemails in their music, nothing snaps me out of the zone harder than random dialogue tacked on to the end of a song. I could have done without these production easter eggs, cute as they are, popping up in key spots like the album's halfway point, right after the icily beautiful mental breakdown of "Spin Out."

> ...the writing on this album is an unflinching look at desire and power dynamics in a relationship between two women as it sours.

PIA CONTRERAS

Lyrics have always been a strength in the artists' past work. Jay Som and Palehound both write with the directness of a journal entry. As Bachelor, the duo's lyrics are mantra-like in their repetition and simplicity. Songs like "Went Out Without You" and "Aurora" have a meditative quality to their hushed refrains. At the same time, the writing on this album is an unflinching look at desire and power dynamics in a relationship between two women as it sours.

Full disclosure, I fell in love with this project from the moment I heard Bachelor's hard-hitting first single (and stand out track on the full album) "Anything at All," which combines terrifying lyrics with a driving guitar line and cathartic vocals, but not every song on the album is as effective. The album closer and title track "Doomin Sun," for example, doesn't quite hit home with its abrupt thematic pivot to climate change (somehow, one of the most cheerful songs on this album). Overall, however, Bachelor's first LP is cohesive, both introspective and playful, and musically-compelling enough for heavy listening. It holds up not just as music, but also as satisfying storytelling and an exciting development in

REEL CRITIC: "TENET"

By JACK TORPEY
Contributing Writer

Christopher Nolan's "Tenet" is without question one of the most narratively and visually complex films that I've ever seen. One might guess this given the nature of the plot, which follows a CIA agent, known only as the Protagonist (John David Washington), on his mission to save the world from ruin at the hands of Andrei Sator (Kenneth Branagh), a Russian oligarch who is working with an entity

> Nolan is aware of the cinematic yarn he is spinning, and he knows how to keep us engaged until the cloth is spun.

in the future to destroy civilization in the present.

Sator communicates with this entity by means of inversion, a technology that reverses the entropy of an object or person and sends it backwards through time.

Add to this dizzying concept a screenplay that moves through complicated expositional dialogue at a breakneck pace and images of characters moving through time in opposite directions, and what you're left with is an unapologetically confusing film. Unapologetic is the key word, of course, because Nolan is aware of the complexity of the cinematic yarn he is spinning, and he knows how to keep us engaged until the cloth is spun.

Nolan's expertise is apparent in the skillfulness of the screenplay. The movie is two and a half hours long, but it runs with incredible briskness, a feat that is the result of its pacing. He knows that the inversion technology is the most fascinating aspect of the story, so he plants its full reveal in the middle of the film and gradually lifts the curtain on it throughout the opening half. There is palpable narrative tension as we walk step by step with the Protagonist, dodging inverted bullets and fighting a man moving in reverse, all while trying to piece together the mystery unfolding around him.

When the Protagonist finally witnesses inversion in the open for the first time during a car chase halfway through the film, the staging is brilliant. Composer Ludwig Göransson's score reverberates from the screen, Neil's (Robert Pattison) panicked questioning increases anxiety as he hears voices speaking over the radio in reverse and cinematographer Hoyte van Hoytema's deliberate tracking of an inverted car barreling toward the Protagonist's vehicle work together harmoniously to unsettle the viewer and confront them with the menacing technology at the center of the story.

Beyond its structural prowess, Nolan's screenplay also excels on a human level. The director's treatment of a desperate mother (Elizabeth Debicki) fighting to save her son from her crazed husband is intensely realistic and often hard to watch. Simultaneously, the Protagonist's repeated willingness to sacrifice his mission to save those around him creates a strong moral bond between him and the audience. In one particularly moving scene, Washington and Pattinson's characters share a moment that shifts the film's focus from technical sci-fi devices to a simple theme of friendship.

> Beyond its structural prowess, Nolan's screenplay also excels on a human level.

"Tenet" also benefits from a second key feature that defines any Christopher Nolan film: spectacle. Scenes like a packed opera house coming under siege by terrorists, a pair of agents rappelling up a Mumbai skyscraper and a 747 airliner crashing into a warehouse all occur

> There is palpable narrative tension as we walk step by step with the Protagonist, dodging inverted bullets and fighting a man moving in reverse...

within the first 45 minutes of the film. The amount of action that Nolan packs into this movie is remarkable, especially given that almost all of it was accomplished using practical sets and effects. This action was captured on 65mm IMAX film cameras, providing sweeping scale and clarity to match the film's ambitious story. The picture is supplemented by a truly powerful soundscape that will literally shake the viewers' seats. It is a visceral experience, best exemplified by the opening opera sequence's unnerving mix of an orchestra tuning and Göransson's rumbling blasts laid over shattering gun shots.

The moment when story, sight and sound all blend to create an overpowering cinematic experience always sticks with me at the end of a Christopher Nolan film. "Tenet" isn't his best work. It never reaches the dramatic heights of "The Dark Knight" trilogy, it doesn't possess the narrative mastery of his earlier, smaller projects and it never touches the pathos achieved by his work in "Interstellar" and "Dunkirk." But "Tenet," in all of its complexity and grandeur, aims high and hits its mark, all because its filmmaker had confidence in his vision. That conviction rubs off on us as we watch, and before we know it, we are right there with Nolan, committed to a world where reverse entropy and temporal pincer movements reign supreme.

Courtesy photo

DON'T MISS THIS

Clifford Symposium: Radical Implications: Facing a Planetary Emergency

As Middlebury's hallmark academic year kickoff, the Clifford Symposium brings together the entire community to tackle big ideas and meaningful questions. Featuring presentations from Bill McKibbon, Adrienne Maree Brown, Mary Annaïse Heglar, Julian Brave NoiseCat, Sarah Jaquette Ray and Jane McAlevey, along with student-led discussions, the Clifford Symposium confronts the climate crisis and seeks to understand the radical implications of this moment. Join students, faculty, staff, alumni and a host of dynamic climate justice leaders to tackle some of the biggest questions facing the world today.

Thursday, September 23—Saturday, September 25 throughout the college's campus. Visit go/clifford for a detailed schedule of events.

Imani Winds and Catalyst Quartet

The Middlebury Performing Arts Series opens its fall 2021 season with two dynamic chamber ensembles joining forces for a special program entitled (im)migration: music of change. The concert features the Vermont premiere of Jessie Montgomery's new work Sergeant McCauley, which brings together spirituals and work songs that reflect her great-grandfather's route in the Great Migration. Other highlights include Mongo Santamaría's Afro Blue; Florence B. Price's Negro Folksongs in Counterpoint, and Roberto Sierra's Concierto de Cámara.

Friday, September 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mahaney Arts Center, Robison Hall. Free.

Hirschfield International Film Series: 2021 New French Shorts

This annual showcase of some of the most exciting new cinematic voices from France includes the Oscar-nominated animated short "Genius Loci" and César Award winners "And Then the Bear" and "So What if the Goats Die?" Boasting festival favorites from Cannes, Sundance, Berlinale, and beyond, this feature-length program of delightful, funny, charming, and provocative French shorts is sure to fill you with joie de vivre.

Please note: this is a virtual screening only.

Saturday, September 25 at 3 p.m., online. Register at go/hirschfield. Free.

WRMC RADIO ROUNDUP: *School of Rock (and other music)*

By THE WRMC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Have your Spotify playlists become stale? Is your weekly mix just not cutting it? Maybe it's time to branch out and listen to something new. The Executive Board of WRMC, Middlebury College's radio station, has selected a wonderfully wide range of albums, spanning time and genre, for your listening pleasure. Check out these recommendations and let the sounds of summer carry you through the semester.

*RIYL (recommended if you like)

Social Media Director's Pick — Kai Velazquez '23

Album: "Foreign Things" — Amber Mark

Genre: Soulful pop

RIYL: Remi Wolf, Austin Millz, Hope Tala, Smino

Blurb: Amber Mark has been said to create music that will make you dance and cry. I would add on top of that that her music will remind you of the light illuminating your path in dark times. The start of the semester has been tough, but my favorite track on this EP, "Worth It," has kept me going. Mark sings about the moments when you feel like you don't deserve the good in life and reminds you that "you're so damn [worthy]" of joy. Through grief, regret and pain, the lyrics and beats will reverberate through your heart.

Co-Concert Manager's Pick — Luke Robins '23

Album: "An Overview on Phenomenal Nature" — Cassandra Jenkins

Genre: Indie Rock/Folk

RIYL: Big Thief, Slaughter Beach Dog, Indigo de Souza

Blurb: This first week of school, I have felt non-stop out of breath. From readjusting to the social scene to remembering homework exists, stressors can be overwhelming. Cassandra Jenkins' babbling production and swirling lyrics reminds me to take the space I need to breathe.

Library Manager's Pick — Kyle Hooker '24

Album: "Seal" — Seal

Genre: Pop/ Neo R&B/Soul

RIYL: World Party, The Subdudes, also classic R&B

Blurb: This album is a few decades old, but I was told that's alright. In any case, this album is the debut, self-titled album from Seal, which I own on cassette (courtesy of my mom). The album has a nice blend of higher energy songs with a good baseline and slower, more mellow songs. All of them are long, with nice groove, pacing and beautiful, passionate lyrics. The first track is called "The Beginning," which I feel is fitting for transitional moments.

General Manager's Pick — Maddie Van Beek '22.5

Album: "If This Isn't Nice, I Don't Know What Is" — Still Woozy

Genre: Indie Rock

RIYL: Rex Orange County, Omar Apollo, Glass Animals

Blurb: After years of incredibly catchy singles and EPs, Sven Gamsky, better known as Still Woozy, has finally released his debut album. "If This Isn't Nice, I Don't Know What Is" was produced in Gamsky's home studio garage, imbuing it with all of the character of his bedroom pop roots. The album takes us through Gamsky's often chaotic mental state. "You wouldn't last a day in my head" is the repeated warning of the opening track. These lyrics are balanced out by Gamsky's strong command of sound and genre blending, making for an album that's layered with emotional and sonic complexity.

Music Director's Pick — Natalie Penna '24

Album: "i'm so glad i feel this way about you" — Insignificant Other

Genre: Indie Punk/ Indie Pop Rock

RIYL: Remember Sports, Origami Angel, Diet Cig

Blurb: "i'm so glad i feel this way about you" is a catchy, bouncy and sometimes angry album about a lot of complex feelings. Each song is its own specific moment in time, and they feel personal while being easy to relate to. Above all else, this album is super fun whether you're deeply listening or just looking for something to play while you study.

Music Director's Pick — Pia Contreras '22

Album: "Obviously" — Lake Street Drive

Genre: Alternative

RIYL: The California Honeydrops, Anderson East

Blurb: The song "Hypotheticals" has been stuck in my head since I first heard it in March, and I'm not upset about it at all. "Obviously" is a very fun album to sing along and dance to. Side note: if you ever find yourself with the aux on a car ride and don't know what to play, pick this album — you won't regret it.

Pia Contreras

Maggie Wise named NESCAC Player of the Week

By NIAMH CARTY
Contributing Writer

Maggie Wise '22 has helped lead the Middlebury volleyball team (8–0) to its strongest start in program history — and she was named NESCAC Player of the Week in the process.

In the team's 5–0 opening week, Wise hit .417, averaging 3.8 kills per set. After a home opener straight-set sweep over St. Michael's College, the Panthers attended the Wheaton Invitational, where Wise, an outside hitter, earned 28 digs, six block assists and six service aces.

Though Wise and other seniors are in leadership positions this year, they were sophomores when they last competed. Several players in Wise's class have been getting playing time since their first year, which has helped with the transition process.

> "Maggie is consistently one of the best players on the court yet remains so humble about her abilities as an outside hitter."

"We essentially have two freshman classes because the sophomores have no real game experience," Wise said. "The St. Mike's game was a good way to get everyone playing time."

Wise said she knew the team could go 5–0 at the Wheaton tournament after their win against St. Michael's College.

"Our level of play has been awesome, and I think everyone, in spite of not having that playing experience, has stepped up to the plate," she said.

In her last competitive season in 2019, Wise was named to the Second-Team All-NESCAC and was ranked seventh all-time for kills per set at Middlebury, averaging 2.90. Head coach Sarah Raunecker remarked on Wise's seamless shift despite the missed season.

"Maggie arrived as a very talented hitter and has grown in her ability to mix up her shots, her consistency and is hitting with even more power now," Raunecker said. "She made an immediate impact with her physical skills but has emerged as a more vocal and confident leader over the years."

Wise commented that the year and a half off due to the Covid-19 pandemic did provide some silver linings for the team as they were able to take time to reassess their team dynamics. One way the team has worked on this is through creating a list of various words and themes — including composure, grit, grace, respect and integrity — for the team to stand by.

Wise mentioned that these words hold more meaning behind the scenes and noted they have been a beneficial way for the team to remain focused on their values and goals, even when not playing competitively.

"Maggie is consistently one of the best players on the court yet remains so humble about her abilities as an outside hitter," teammate Lucy Ambach '23 said. "Off the court, Maggie has such a good relationship with everyone on the team. MCVB is so lucky to have such a responsible, strong and confident leader."

Off the court, Wise is an Economics major and Architecture minor as well as participates in community friends, a program that connects children in Middlebury with college students. Middlebury's volleyball team has been running workshops and practices with Middlebury Union High School's newly-created volleyball club, a great help to the school given that volleyball is not widely played in Vermont.

Since Maggie's Player of the Week nomination, Middlebury has bested Colby-Sawyer, Colby and Bates, each 3-0. The Panthers have only dropped one set thus far in its 8-0 campaign. Middlebury hosts a conference game against Amherst, who is also undefeated, at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 24.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Wise, and many other seniors on the team, have not competed since their sophomore year due to the pandemic.

SIEFER'S SCOOP PODCAST:
COLBY MORRIS '19 CHASES MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

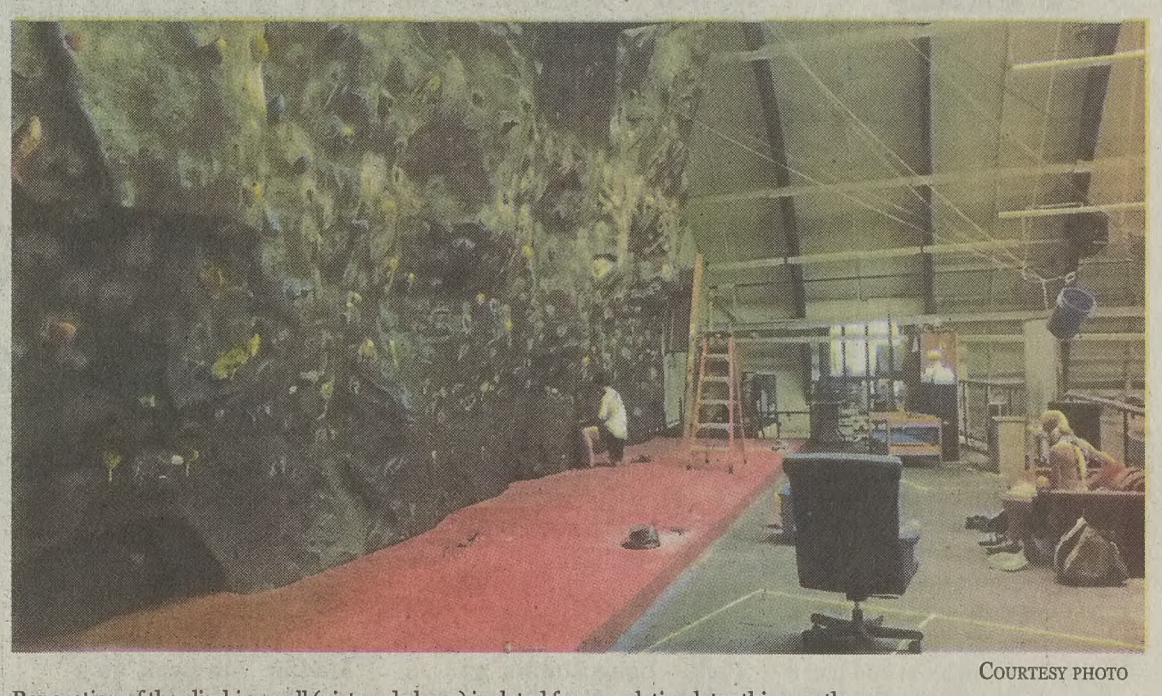
COURTESY OF GORDON DONOVAN

Colby Morris '19, the 2018 NESCAC Pitcher of the Year, now plays for the Brooklyn Cyclones, the High-A affiliate of the New York Mets.

By BLAISE SIEFER
Senior Sports Editor

On the first Siefer's Scoop episode of the 2021-22 academic year, Blaise hosts Colby Morris, a former Middlebury College baseball pitcher who's now chasing Major League Baseball. Named 2018 NESCAC Pitcher of the Year, Morris was a four-year player on the Middlebury varsity baseball team. Since graduating from Middlebury in 2019, Morris has played for several independent and minor league baseball teams; currently, he's pitching for the Brooklyn Cyclones, a High-A affiliate of the New York Mets. On this episode, Morris discusses his time at Middlebury, how it prepared him for professional baseball, and what his goals are with the sport. He also recalls his favorite class at Middlebury, his go-to restaurant in the area and his favorite dorm on campus.

Be Boulder
Updated climbing wall to open this month



COURTESY PHOTO

Renovation of the climbing wall (pictured above) is slated for completion later this month.

By RAIN JI
Arts & Culture Editor

Months after sport climbing debuted at the Tokyo Olympics, the current climbing wall section at the south end of the Nelson Recreation Center is expected to be revamped. Parts of the floor will be changed from padded surface to rigid surface in order to install an additional freestanding wall unit next to the existing climbing wall. The renovation is made possible through the college's operating budget and alumni donations.

The project is spearheaded by Middlebury Outdoor Programs, a branch of Student Activities that helps students connect with the outdoors. A shortage of contractors caused some delays, but Facilities Services has now contracted Naylor and Breen Builders Inc., according to Associate Director of Maintenance and Operations Luther Tenny. The tentative completion date for the project is the end of September.

Since the wall was installed in 2002, Outdoor Programs has purchased new holds, replaced ropes, improved padding and reset routes. During the summer, the entire wall was stripped of holds and student climbers added new routes to the wall.

When asked what prompted this initiative, Director of Outdoor Programs and Club Sports Doug Connelly pointed to the popularity of the climbing wall on campus.

"The climbing wall is an incredibly popular resource, so Outdoor Programs is committed to keeping it great," Connelly said. "I am constantly assessing our equipment needs and infrastructure to make improvements."

As part of the larger effort to reopen more facilities this year, there will no longer be limited slots to use the climbing wall, though students are still asked to sign up in advance and follow other protocols. According to the Middlebury Outdoor Programs website, there will only be bouldering at the wall in order to comply with Covid-19 measures. To add variety, there will also be outdoor rock climbing opportunities on Friday afternoons in September and October.

Currently, the climbing wall is open on weekdays from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Sundays. Seven students work at the climbing wall to oversee safe climbing protocols.

Windsor Smith '24.5 developed an interest in rock climbing when she was 11, and she climbed on an indoor wall for the first time at Middlebury. As a second-semester climbing wall monitor, she is excited to see new changes added to the space.

Climbing wall monitor Jackson Evans '22 sees the climbing wall as a unique community-building space because it combines social interaction with creative physical activity. Last year, he worked to expand the affinity group climbing sessions to provide affinity organizations at the college a space to reinforce their intra-team connections. By extending an invitation to a larger college community, he hopes to see more diverse representation at the wall.

"While a community certainly surrounds the wall, it has always been a homogenous community of white people," Evans said.

This year, the team is also growing more mindful about the accessibility of the wall. Evans wants to make sure that the wall becomes a comfortable place for people who have been systematically marginalized in wall climbing.

"In planning the routes we set for people to climb, it is vital to ensure a range of possible methods and design sufficient beginner climbs for anyone to access."

Men's cross country dominates at Aldrich Invitational

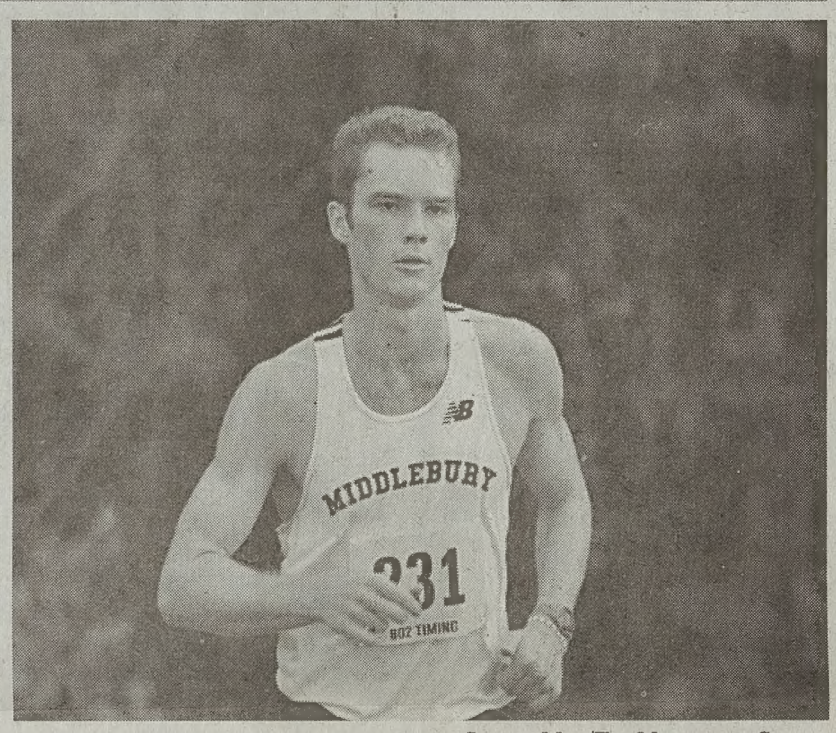
By CHARLES CROUNSE
Staff Writer

Men's cross country continued its perfect start to the season last weekend, sweeping St. Michael's College, Clarkson University, and Norwich University en route to a home win at the Aldrich Invitational. Every Middlebury participant placed in the top 20 out of a field of 58.

Team captain **Quin McGaugh '22** took home first prize, finishing the 8k course in 26:24 (5:25 per mile average). **Alec Gironda '24** finished eight seconds later in second, and **Zander Kessler '22.5** came home in third. Those three finished with a substantial margin over the rest of the field, with fellow Panther **Drew Donahue '25** just missing out on a sub 27-minute performance. **Peter Burke '24** snagged the final scoring spot in fifth place to make it a perfect score for the hosts, and **Luke Lorenz '23** grabbed sixth place for good measure.

Other top Middlebury finishers were **Noah Whiting '22** (10th), **Oscar deFrancis '24.5** (11th), **Diego Rey '23** (12th) and **Will Lavey '25** (13th).

The Panthers will look to continue their perfect start to the season on Saturday, Sept. 25 at the Purple Valley Classic, a meet hosted by Williams.



Shirley Mao/The Middlebury Campus

Men's cross country took the top six spots, and every member of the team finished in the top 20, at the Aldrich Invitational last weekend.

Seven questions for Eliza King Freedman '23, women's squash

By ABBY SCHNEIDERHAN
Staff Writer

Eliza King Freedman '23 is a junior on the women's squash team from Sharon, Connecticut. In this installment of "seven questions," Freedman details some of her favorite memories with the squash team, whom she looks up to on the roster, and how she conceptualizes being a student-athlete at Middlebury.

AS: What are some of the things you do — either by yourself or with teammates — to make squash practices fun?

EKF: I feel like, as a team, we put effort into making even the harder days fun. For example, we have a shared playlist that we all add to. We're all such close friends that even though we're always working really hard, we also just enjoy being around each other. It's just cool to be with people who are all so passionate about one thing, so practice is inherently fun, which I think I'm really lucky to be able to say.

AS: It sounds like you have a lot of fun with your teammates. What's your best memory to date — either at practice or at a match?

EKF: I think my favorite competitive memory was during my freshman year when we played Williams away [and] it was one of my teammates' birthdays. I remember we all really wanted to win. I don't think that we even ended up winning; honestly, I believe we didn't, but I think it says something that I can't even totally remember if we won or not. I remember the bus ride back and how fun it was to be all together. It was my teammate's 21st birthday and she had just gotten back from abroad and it was this great weekend.

AS: What about any good memories off the court?

EKS: My favorite memory off the court was when we did "de-initiation" for our seniors last year. It's essentially something we do because we don't have any sort of initiation when you join the team. This past semester, we did it in November because so much of my team didn't come back last spring and it was really special to see how quickly everyone had bonded after only three months and without a season. We got the opportunity to sing songs and do all of the little traditions that we've developed over time. There are just so many inside jokes that come of it, so it was really nice.

AS: What's on your mind when you're playing a match?

EKF: When I'm playing a match, my favorite thing about squash is that I don't think. If I can get to a place where I'm not even thinking, and my mind is just quiet and I'm just letting myself play, I think that's when I'm playing my best. I think that's honestly the best part of playing — when you can get to that place where you know that all your work has paid off and you can just relax.

AS: Are there any pre-match or practice rituals that you think are unique to the squash team?

EKF: There's one ritual that's developed over the years where before every match we either go to our locker room or, at away matches, we'll try to find a bathroom or a place outside to do it. We usually have like three songs, one or two that are consistent and the others change. We listen to the songs, and we have different things that we do during each one. Then, we all sit in a circle after the match and will say something like a goal that we have for ourselves or a goal that we have for the team.

Courtesy of Eliza King Freedman

Eliza King Freedman (second row from front, center) pictured with her teammates.

AS: Is there anyone on your team, or on another Middlebury team, that particularly inspires you as an athlete?

EKF: The person who inspires me is our captain Ideal [Dowling '22]. When you just talk to her in passing, it's apparent that she's really invested in our lives and the social aspects of the team. She always makes an effort to check in about how we're doing. But she's also someone that I love to watch play because of how focused she gets. I think it goes to show that she's a captain and has been our best player for the last three years. Ideal really embodies all of the qualities that make us come together in a way that I really think is necessary for the kind of team that we are.

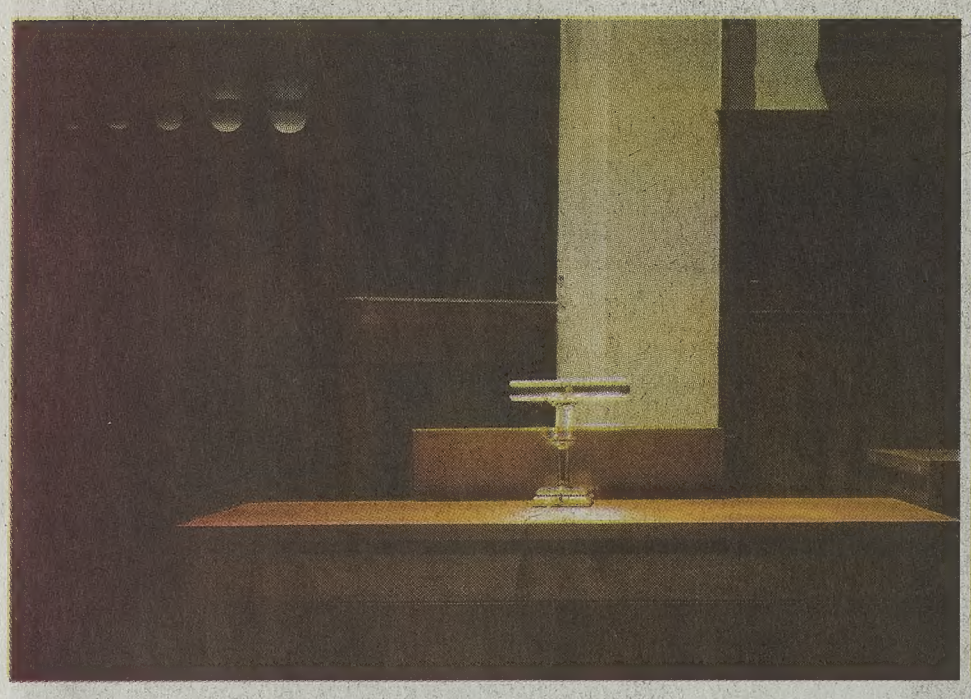
AS: How conscious are you of being a student-athlete? How much do you think being on the squash team defines your Middlebury experience?

EKF: Since I was a walk-on and making the team was my main goal coming into Middlebury, once I made it, I really made the team my whole identity on campus. I think that was a common thing to do for a lot of athletes on campus and partially still is, but I also think Covid-19 took that away from all of us.

Essentially, I think Covid has really changed the way that student-athletes define themselves. Squash is definitely something that I'm still equally as passionate about, but because it couldn't be my whole life last year, it's definitely changed in my mind how I identify myself at Middlebury, and I think definitely for the better.

Editor's Note: This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

Songs From Dusk



Continued from Page 4

daily chimes. Set up like a keyboard, it sits on the top chamber of the chapel and has wooden keys that are connected to bells of various sizes. According to George, its largest bell weighs up to 2,300 pounds — as heavy as the liberty bell.

Music runs in the family. George's father was an organist, and his uncle was an exceptional violinist. But after several frustrating experiences with the violin and the piano, he said that he "almost didn't become a musician."

However, at the age of 13, George took after his father and picked up the organ, and later, the carillon.

Taking after his father's advice that "you are not gonna make a lot of money as a musician," George studied chemistry at Columbia University, and worked as a chemist for 15 years after graduation. Later, he found his way back to the carillon once it became clear that he could support himself playing full-time.

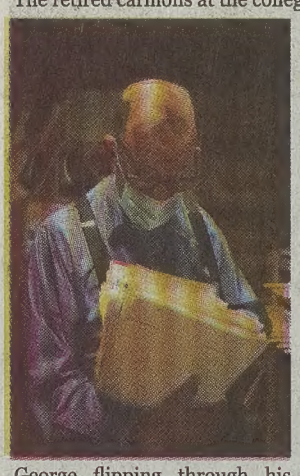
"It's interesting. In fact, now I make more money as a musician than I did as a chemist," he laughed. "However, I am still very interested in chemistry and the sciences. I still subscribe to science magazines and follow the latest news. I enjoyed my time studying chemistry."

Now, as a full-time carillonneur, George practices four hours a day, mostly on his practice keyboard at home. The work has taken him across the world: George speaks and reads French and German, holds a master's degree in Indian music and has a deep interest in culture and languages. His license plate even reads "clogra", which means "carillon" in old Irish.

Continue to No. 2

George and his car with a license plate that says "carillon" in old Irish.

The retired carillons at the college.



George flipping through his music sheets.

On the right key, you can see the worn out tip from decades of use.

> "Always play the carillon in front of you. Not the carillon at home, not the ideal carillon halfway across the world that you dream of playing. Play the one in front of you."

No. 2

Talking to George feels a bit like talking to the entire history of carillon-playing the last 70 years. He told me about the making of the carillons in the churches of Russia, Germany, France and China — the specific weight and dimensions of the bells and how the largest bell in history was sunk in a shipwreck.

"I am sure with all the technologies they have these days, they can retrieve the bell," he said. "I would really like to see it in person — the largest bell in the world."

The first piece he played for me was a folksong from Taiwan, and he asked whether it reminded me of home. It was surreal to hear an oriental folk song in the little attic of Mead Chapel, so far away from home.

"One of the reasons why I love the carillon is because you can play music of all kinds and origins, for people from all over the world," he said. "It's not just about a specific religion or church."

Pointing to a news clip pinned to the wall of the room, George told me that he studied the carillon under Dionisio Lind, the first Black carillonneur in the world, who played the world's heaviest carillon in New York City. George referred to him affectionately as "Dio."

"Dio told me once: always play the carillon in front of you. Not the carillon at home, not the ideal carillon halfway across the world that you dream of playing. Play the one in front of you," George said. "Because everyone is different, and you have to tune in to the one in front of you: its unique beauties, unique problems. Everything. That's how you play well."

As we exited the chapel, I realized that between working and looking for work, I couldn't remember the last time I dedicated entire hours to a live performance. It felt meditative. Now, I take a little pause in my day when I hear the same opening tunes at dusk everyday. I think of George making his way to the little wooden room above the whole campus, and somehow feel a little lighter.

We stayed for nearly two hours, and the sun had already set as we exited the chapel. To my surprise, before I was able to thank him, George thanked me for being there and giving him a reason to play longer.

George's clipboard in the carillon chamber with posters from various parts of the world and in various languages.